

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

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## PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of August 4, 2009

**Phase 1:** Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

**Phase 2:** An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

**Phase 3:** An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

**Phase 4:** Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

**Phase 5:** A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

**Phase 6:** The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail [cnmiphoc@gmail.com](mailto:cnmiphoc@gmail.com), or visit [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/).

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization



## 'People Power'

Huge crowds took to Manila's streets to honor former President Corazon Aquino.

ASIA...Page 16

Fire engulfs abandoned house in As Matuis. **PAGE 3**  
Aldan spends just \$40 and gets a brand new Yaris. **PAGE 7**

## 'Foreign investors must renew, apply for permits ahead of federalization'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
[haidee\\_eugenio@saipantribune.com](mailto:haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Commerce Secretary Michael J. Ada has designated Aug. 21 as the cutoff date for accepting new

### CONTACT INFO

Foreign Investment Office  
Tel: 664-3018  
E-mail:  
[commercedept@pticom.com](mailto:commercedept@pticom.com)

and renewal permit applications from foreign investors in anticipation of the start of transition to federal immigration on Nov. 28.

"This will give a 90-day review for the applications turned

in, and by Nov. 28 when federalization starts, no long-term business certificate application should be pending or denial," Ada told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview yesterday.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, however, has not issued the regulations yet for the CNMI-only transitional worker program and for

See **FOREIGN** on Page 4

## NMI swine flu cases now at 6



NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Department of Public Health Richard Brostrom, right, and epidemiologist Ed Diaz Jr. give an update on the number of confirmed cases of swine flu in the CNMI.

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
[n\\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com](mailto:n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health estimates that over a hundred people in the CNMI are presumed to have contracted the influenza A(H1N1) virus but only six patients have been confirmed so far via off-island laboratory testing.

DPH reported that 20 additional test results were completed yesterday in San Antonio, Texas, with 14 proving negative for swine flu.

Public Health Medical Director Richard Brostrom said two

tests have been confirmed with Type A influenza (H3) but not of the swine type.

The other four test results were positive for A(H1N1), also known as "swine flu" virus.

See **NMI** on Page 4

## Villagomez, Santoses to be sentenced today

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER



Villagomez

Former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez, the highest CNMI official ever to be convicted in a criminal case, will face the federal court today for his sentencing.

Villagomez's sister, former Commonwealth Ports Authority personnel manager Joaquina V. Santos, and her husband, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, will also be sentenced today in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

See **VILLAGOMEZ** on Page 4



## BIGGER EXPORTER

Rommel G. Catalma, operations manager of Saipan SyAqua Aquaculture, explains the use of paddle wheels, which improve the oxygen content of the water as he gives a tour of the one-hectare local shrimp farm in China Town yesterday. Saipan SyAqua, owned by businessman Anthony Pellegrino, is now exporting to the U.S. mainland, after conquering the Guam market starting in December. See **story on Page 5.**

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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## Local

# Alleged Korean fugitive faces extradition

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The federal court conducted an extradition hearing yesterday in the case against a Korean fugitive who allegedly defrauded several persons of over 422 million won (about \$331,804) by telling them, among other things, that students could enroll at a four-year university on Saipan.

After listening to arguments by the prosecution and the defense counsel, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson placed the case against Hyuk Jong Kwon under advisement.

Munson said he will issue a written decision.

Munson asked the parties' counsel to submit findings of fact and conclusions of law by Monday.

The judge remanded Kwon into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

At the hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jessica Cruz of Guam represented the U.S. government. Attorney Bruce Berline appeared as counsel for Kwon.

Cruz explained the charges made by the Seoul Western District and stated that the information claimed was believed to be true and correct.

Cruz asserted that Kwon is

extraditable, but Berline objected.

Federal agents arrested Kwon in the early part of this year after the U.S. government filed a complaint before the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Cruz filed the complaint based on the Republic of Korea's 2007 request to the U.S. to extradite Kwon for five counts of fraud.

Cruz said Kwon was charged with five counts of fraud in the Republic of Korea and that warrants of his arrest were issued in May 2005 by the Seoul Western District Prosecutor's Office. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Louis Vuitton presents sea-inspired exhibit

French luxury icon Louis Vuitton welcomes the summer season by presenting "The Lure of the Sea," an underwater photo exhibition at Saipan DFS store.

The sea has always drawn artists and dreamers to its shores. Part of its fascination is its relationship to man and to the self-regenerating natural order of things. But for many artists, the sea presents particular difficulties. Its

mutability—and the power and majesty of the open, deep, illimitable sea—is like trying to paint a soul.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Louis Vuitton welcomes the summer season by presenting "The Lure of the Sea," an underwater photo exhibition at Saipan DFS store.

For Japanese artists Takahiro Noguchi and Ota Nobuyuki, the solution is to focus on the sea's rich bounty in a series of stunning underwater photographs taken in the alluring crystalline clear waters of the Marianas Islands.

Both Noguchi and Ota are diving instructors and professional underwater photographers. Scuba diving on coral reefs provides an occasion to enjoy the feeling of being attuned to elemental forces while experiencing the magic and poetry of life in perfect harmony. They bring something more to their photographs than mere close visual analysis and attention to detail. The images capture the rhythms of the sea, endlessly animated with the movement of life in all its amazing diversity.

The photographs will be exhibited from Aug. 6, 2009 to Sept. 22, 2009.

The world leader in luxury, Louis Vuitton has been synonymous with the art of stylish travel since 1854. Since 1997, with the arrival of the designer Marc Jacobs, it has extended its expertise to women's and men's ready-to-wear, shoes, watches and jewelry. Louis Vuitton operates an exclusive retail network of 433 stores in 57 countries around the world. Since 1987, it has been part of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton. **(PR)**

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6:00pm-8:00pm

August 14, 2009  
Multi-Purpose Center Saipan  
6:00pm-8:00pm

August 17, 2009  
Tinian Elementary School  
6:00pm-8:00pm

August 18, 2009  
Kagman High School Cafeteria  
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For more information, please e-mail [kilili@mail.house.gov](mailto:kilili@mail.house.gov) or call 323-2647/8.



**Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan is here to listen.** Come share your thoughts on issues that matter to you and the community. It's about working together for a better and stronger Commonwealth.

# TOWNHALL 2009

Face to Face with U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan



# Fire engulfs an abandoned house in As Matuis

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A fire of still unknown origin engulfed an abandoned wooden house along Kanon Kanon Drive in As Matuis Monday night.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that no one was hurt

in the blaze.

Tarkong said fire personnel responded on Monday at 9:39pm after receiving a report of a house fire in As Matuis.

Tarkong said fire personnel arrived at the scene at 9:44pm and found the wooden house completely engulfed in flames.

Firefighters had the fire under

control by 10:55pm.

Fire investigators who were summoned to the scene arrived to find that the wooden structure had already collapsed.

"Based on their [investigators'] observation, the wooden structure sustained major damage. The cause of the fire is undetermined and [is] pending

further investigation," Tarkong said.

From February to April 2009, five arson cases reportedly occurred on Saipan.

The last arson case was on April 17 when an unidentified person reportedly intentionally set on fire an auto shop's junkyard in Chalan Laulau. The

blaze burned and affected 50 vehicles.

Last April 2, an unoccupied house in Kagman III was intentionally burned.

On March 14, a two-story building under renovation in Tanapag was burned by an unidentified person or persons.

On Feb. 16, an abandoned

house in Kagman III Phase 1 was reportedly set on fire by unidentified person or persons.

Last Feb. 5, an unoccupied house in Afetnas was reportedly intentionally burned by an unidentified person or persons.

As of yesterday, no one was arrested yet in those five arson cases.

## Juan 'Pan' to resign on Thursday; consults retirees on replacement

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Now certified as a gubernatorial candidate in the November elections, independent bet Juan Pan Guerrero confirmed yesterday that he will submit his resignation from the NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees on Thursday—his last day in office.

Although it is not on the board's agenda, Guerrero said the issue would be discussed in the last part of their meeting.

He said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will also be informed about his decision on the same day. He

intends to ask Fitial to consider a recommendation by the Commonwealth Retirement Association for his replacement.

Guerrero earlier asked the association for possible candidates for his position; some names were submitted. The group's official endorsee will be known Thursday.

"I hope we can finalize the official name to be endorsed by the association by Thursday," Guerrero told Saipan Tribune.

Guerrero was appointed to a four-year term as fund trustee in December 2006. He was elected as its chairman in 2007 up to the

present.

Among the accomplishments of Fund trustees under his leadership were the suspension of pension payments to delinquent members, suspending refund payments, and stopping post-retirement adoptions as Fund beneficiaries.

"We made some positive reforms, even though the Legislature did not want to act to ensure the viability of the Retirement



Guerrero

Fund. Just the suspension of the retirement payments to delinquent members was a big accomplishment of the Fund leadership because we brought substantial savings to the Fund," he said.

He also emphasized the commitment of the trustees when it proceeded with the lawsuit against the Fitial administration. The court later ruled that the government owes

the Fund \$231.6 million in employer's contribution.

"We did not change the direction of the lawsuit and we acted on what the previous board concurred...and for me, that's one big achievement for our retirees," he said.

As he departs, Guerrero hopes to see "continuity" in the Fund's functions through his successor.

Guerrero, who will be run-

ning with lieutenant governor bet Joseph Camacho, is scheduled to fly to some U.S. states this month to campaign among absentee voters.

He will be running against three other teams for the top post in government. His opponents include incumbent Benigno R. Fitial, Heinz Hofschneider, and Ramon Deleon Guerrero.

## EPA wants 28 drums of hazardous waste removed

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wants 28 drums containing hazardous materials be removed from a Saipan Mayor's Office site in Lower Base.

The various drums—containing mixed wastes, including solvents, petroleum wastes and heavy metals—were dumped in different locations around the island in the last several years and were transferred for safekeeping to the Mayor's Office heavy equipment storage shop.

The EPA disclosed yesterday that many of these drums are degraded and others are bulging to near rupture.

"Saipan is subject to extreme weather conditions and typhoons. Excessive heat, humidity or a typhoon could have destroyed the drums and released their contents, posing an imminent risk to the employees of the mayor's office and the marine environment," EPA said.

In cases like this, the EPA usually classifies and transfers the drums to the U.S. mainland for treatment or disposal at a disposal facility.

"EPA determined that actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances, had they not been addressed, could have prevented substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment," the federal agency said.

A check with records compiled by the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality shows the subject property in Lower Base is identified as the mayor's old office building. The site consists of a 0.75-acre parcel of improved land that contains two buildings.

The facility is now the maintenance yard for the mayor's office and was previously used as

an office building.

The site is currently approved for Brownfields phase 1.

Saipan Mayor Juan Tudela confirmed yesterday that the stored hazardous materials in his area of responsibility are a great risk to the health of his personnel.

He said the drums were stored in the facility way before he assumed office as municipal chief.

"I am very concerned with our



Tudela

people's health... that's why we support all efforts to remove these drums in our office," he said, adding about 20 field operation employees are currently stationed in the facility.

Saipan Tribune learned that DEQ received Brownfields 128a funding from EPA since 2004. It is designed to develop and enhance the DEQ brownfields program or the CNMI state response program. One element

required under the funding is the development and maintenance of an administrative record for the CNMI state response program which provides statistics of response actions that have been completed, ongoing, or are planned.

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## 24 candidates, 1 popular initiative certified by Election Commission

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
Moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission has initially certified 24 individuals as official candidates for the general election in November.

In a resolution adopted by the board, eight members of the Covenant Party, as well as eight independent contenders and eight non-partisan candidates,

got the approval of the commissioners.

Robert Guerrero, commission executive director, said yesterday these candidates were the first ones to comply with all the requirements set by law.

More are expected to be certified in the coming weeks, according to the election official.

As of yesterday, CEC had 53 total registered candidates, just five days before the deadline on

Monday, Aug. 10.

The Covenant Party members who were confirmed official candidates for various positions included standard-bearers Benigno R. Fitia and Eloy Inos for the gubernatorial and lieutenant governor positions.

Its three municipality mayoral candidates also got the approval of the board: Jose San Nicolas for Tinian, Marian Tudela for Saipan, and Ramona Rebueng

for the Northern Islands.

Covenant Party senatorial bets Joaquin Borja, Joseph Mendiola, Ana Teregeyo, and Jacinta Kaipat were also certified.

CEC also certified the independent teams of Juan Pan Guerrero and Joseph Camacho and Ramon Deleon Guerrero and David Borja for the top two positions in the government.

Mayorality candidates approved to run as independents

are Melchor Mendiola and Steve Mesngon, both running for Rota mayor.

Independent senators were Calista Pendergrass, Jovita Taimanao, and Paul Camacho.

For the nonpartisan position of municipal council member, the certified candidates were Alfred Apatang Jr., Arvin Ogo, Brellinda Taimanao, Brian Mendiola, Eusebio Manglona, Prudencio Manglona, and Vincent Hocog.

So far, only one nonpartisan candidate for the Board of Edu-

cation was certified—Herman T. Guerrero for a BOE seat for Saipan.

The election commission also formally adopted one popular initiative for this year's election: The Rep. Tina Sablan-sponsored proposal to include the Legislature under the purview of the Open Government Act of 2007. The proposal seeks to amend the CNMI Constitution for this purpose. It will need to be ratified by voters during the Nov. 7 election.

## NMI

From Page 1

This brings the current total of confirmed cases to six, including the two that DPH reported about two weeks ago.

Three of the new four confirmed cases are from the local population (three males, one female).

Brostrom said this indicates community transmission of the illness.

One of the patients is a 63-year-old individual, one is 21 and the other is 23.

DPH is still confirming the age of the fourth patient.

As to other details about the patients, DPH could not disclose

anything yet as per guidelines from the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Patients who report to the hospital or to the clinics will be given a rapid test flu and undergo a nasal swab test. A doctor or a nurse will insert a special cotton tip to the nose of the patient to determine if they have the H1N1. The results would be sent off-island for further laboratory testing.

The test is free of charge.

However, DPH has advised local clinics to slow down on the testing.

Brostrom said it is quite likely that any individual who has the fever and cough have already contracted the virus. "We are

now confident that whenever there is an individual in the CNMI with fever and cough, he or she has the H1N1," he said.

But because it is now a widespread illness, Brostrom said it would be difficult to follow each one of all these cases.

The virus is being treated as an ordinary illness and patients who feel they have fever and cough don't even have to go to the hospital but are advised to stay home.

However, any patients wanting to reveal themselves that they have contracted the virus will not be prevented from doing so to share their experience.

DPH said local clinics are now reporting that most cases are mild to moderate illnesses.

Except for a patient who was voluntarily hospitalized last week, there is no hospitalization at present.

Brostrom said all patients with confirmed A(H1N1) are now doing well. They remain at home and are being monitored.

Brostrom said the latest count had about 13,000 that have already been confirmed with the virus around the Pacific, with two deaths.

Compared to other areas like Palau, Guam, New Zealand, the Philippines and Japan, Brostrom said the number of cases in the CNMI is too small.

"We should congratulate ourselves that there is no panic in the community," he said.

This, he said, is a result of

DPH's "fantastic" preparedness and response system since April when the virus began circulating in Mexico.

Brostrom said this is probably the fastest spread of a disease that has ever happened to humans.

DPH reiterated its appeal to the community to stay calm and stay at home when they have the H1N1 until three to two days when the illness resolves.

In most cases, the H1N1 flu will resolve completely without any medical attention, DPH said.

People who are ill are encouraged to get plenty of rest, take acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen or other fever reducing medicines as needed only. Aspirin is not recommended.

Patients should also drink clear fluids and if medications are prescribed, be sure to follow instructions.

DPH said it has already met officials from the Public School System in anticipation of upcoming opening of classes.

DPH is advising parents not to send their children to school when they are sick to help prevent the further spread of the illness.

Based on the latest count, WHO reported 134,503 confirmed case worldwide with 816 deaths. There were 43,771 cases in the U.S. with 302 deaths.

Laboratory companies are still developing a vaccine for H1N1 flu virus. The vaccine is expected to be available by the end of this year.

## VILLAGOMEZ

From Page 1

Villagomez's sentencing is scheduled at 8am, while Joaquina Santos will learn her fate at 8:30am. James Santos' sentence will be known at 9am.

The courtroom is expected to be filled with relatives, friends, and supporters of Villagomez and the Santos couple.

A panel of jurors pronounced Villagomez and the Santos couple guilty on April 24 of all charges relating to a conspiracy to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. via needless purchases of a de-scaling chemical called Rydlyme.

## Recommended sentence

In an interview with *Saipan Tri-*

*bune* yesterday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley refused to state what his prison term recommendations would be until at the hearing.

When asked if the defendants will be immediately taken to prison after the sentencing, O'Malley said it is up to the judge to make that decision.

"I think it depends. If there is a long sentence the judge might be willing to allow them a little bit [of] extra time to get their affairs in order. If it's a short sentence, he may feel that they should get started right away," he said.

The prosecutor said he has yet to decide whether to recommend remanding the defendants to the U.S. Marshal immediately after the sentencing.

"My preference would be to see them remanded immediate-

ly. But I'm going to wait and see how the sentencing goes before I make my preference known to the court," O'Malley said.

If the judge decides to remand the defendants immediately, O'Malley said they would likely be sent to the local Department of Corrections pending their designation to a federal facility.

He said the designation of a federal facility could take days or even weeks.

O'Malley said the U.S. Marshals Office may send the defendants to the local prison or fly them to Guam, pending the designation of federal prison facility.

The maximum penalty for wire fraud is 20 years in prison, while conspiracy to defraud and to commit offenses against the U.S. carries a five-year penalty. Theft concerning a program

receiving federal funds, and bribery concerning a program receiving federal funds have maximum penalties of 10 years.

## Jail time

In a separate interview, former Superior Court judge Timothy Bellas said he expects the prosecution to recommend jail time and the defense to recommend minimum jail time.

Bellas said it is a situation where the defense counsels will argue that Villagomez deserves some kind of leniency or minimal jail time.

The prosecution, on the other hand, is expected to argue that this is a crime that involves public trust and therefore there has to be some sort of message to the community that this kind of conduct is not acceptable, Bellas said.

He said once a convicted person is sentenced, he or she is normally remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal to begin serving the prison term.

"But they can ask for a stay of that, pending the appeal. They can ask for the judge to consider the special circumstances," Bellas said.

He expects the sentencing hearing to take longer than usual as he assumes that defendants have some witnesses to be called and that some issues may also come up.

With respect to security issue, the former judge said anytime there is a high profile case, the U.S. Marshal's Office usually installs more security.

"It isn't about who is the particular defendant, it is just about a high profile case. They are expecting a bigger number of

people to possibly turn up," he said.

## Bail conditions

Bellas said he is sure the defense will ask for the defendants to remain on bail conditions pending their appeal.

Bellas believes that when Villagomez and co-defendants are remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal, they will be housed at the local prison.

"Before, they used to have to take people down to Guam until they were ready to transport them to the mainland," he said. "But normally what happens is after the jail sentence is imposed, then a defendant goes to the Bureau of Prisons and they make a determination as to where the particular person is going to be housed as far as serving the jail time."

## FOREIGN

From Page 1

foreign investors and students, making it hard for local and foreign businesses and students and other sectors to plan ahead of federalization.

Edmund Villagomez, special assistant to the Commerce secretary and director of Commerce's Foreign Investment Office, said turning in applications is mandatory for those who still want to continue doing business

in the CNMI or want to put up a new business.

"There are different types of long-term business certificates and there may be technical problems that we will deal with on a case by case basis," Villagomez said.

Commerce has approved 446 long-term business certificates from 2008 to July 2009, said Villagomez. There are also applications still pending.

Ada said Commerce will continue to review applications that are pending.

The Commerce secretary issued a public notice yesterday on the cutoff date for foreign investors submitting applications.

"The Department of Commerce would like to inform the general public, particularly all foreign investors and their designated agents in the Commonwealth, that due to the anticipated change in the immigration system on November 28, 2009, all new and renewal applications for the long-term business certificate must be submitted to the Foreign Investment Office no later than

the close of business on Friday, August 21, 2009, with all the required documents," Ada said.

He said incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The Commerce secretary said all new applicants must submit their applications at least 10 calendar days prior to the expiration of the applicant's entry permit.

"Applications submitted within less than 10 days from the expiration of the entry permit shall be denied," he said.

Pursuant to 4 CMC § 5944(g), holders of long-term business

certificates may apply for a renewal by submitting an application at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the long term business entry permit.

"Existing long-term permit holders are encouraged to submit their renewal applications prior to the established deadline," Ada added.

Commerce encourages those who need information to contact the Foreign Investment Office at 664-3018 or email at [commercedept@pticom.com](mailto:commercedept@pticom.com).

Earlier, Gov. Benigno R. Fi-

tial said the uncertainty caused by federalization has resulted in the decline in the number of investors, especially with the absence of regulations for the foreign investor, foreign worker and foreign student programs.

The governor said investors are waiting to see the new rules. He said except for IT&E, all call center development plans have been halted because of federalization. Plans for a telemedicine operation have also been shelved because of federalization, he added.

## 45 PCT

From Page 1

July was fewer than the 42 sold in June, which saw a 24-percent spike from the previous year.

July sales bring to 232 the total number of new vehicles sold

between January and July, compared to 410 last year—a drop of 43 percent.

Moreover, dealers were able to sell more used or secondhand vehicles compared to new ones during the first seven months of the year: 242 versus 232.

Microl Corp. regained its top

spot with 14 new Toyotas and Chevrolets sold in July, a 59-percent drop from last year.

Joeten Motors and Triple "J" Motors each sold 11 new vehicles. Joeten Motors is the local distributor of Nissan, Ford, Honda and Kia units, while Triple "J" Motors distributes

Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Isuzu, Suzuki and Mazda.

As always, cars remained the top vehicle of choice with 19 units sold in July, followed by SUVs with 12 units sold, four trucks, and one van.

The top choice among makes and models was Toyota Corolla

with five units sold, followed by three each of Honda Civic, Mazda3, and Toyota RAV4. Two units each of Hyundai Accent, Hyundai Tucson and Nissan Rogue were also sold.

One unit each of the following makes and models were also sold in July: Honda Ac-

cord, Hyundai Azera, Hyundai Genesis, Nissan Altima, Nissan Maxima, Toyota Yaris, Ford Ranger, Mazda Pick-Up, Nissan Frontier, Toyota Tacoma, Toyota Sienna, Mazda CX7, Nissan Murano, Toyota 4 Runner, Toyota Highlander, and Toyota FJ Cruiser.



# Local shrimp farm now exports to the US mainland

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Local shrimp farm Saipan SyAqua Aquaculture now exports hundreds of pounds of fresh chilled shrimp to the U.S. mainland, months after breaking into the Guam military and civilian market.

Rommel G. Catalma, operations manager of Saipan SyAqua, and Paul Zak, a marketing and sales consultant for the local firm, yesterday said the trial shipment to Seattle in Washington State which serves as entry point to the U.S. began in June, and they are soon expecting the order for the fourth shipment.

"We are optimistic that we are going to sell thousands of pounds [of fresh chilled shrimp] a month with this," Zak told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at the shrimp farm in China Town.

He said the distributor in Seattle they're doing business with supplies seafood products to some 1,200 high-end restaurants and businesses. Zak said they could not divulge the name of the Seattle firm at this time, adding that shrimp from their shipments also reached as far as New York City, Knoxville in Tennessee, and Dallas in Texas.

"We are a boutique shrimp farm. We grow shrimp for a select clientele and not for mass market. We cater to customers who know the difference in taste between frozen and chilled shrimp. We don't compete with countries like Asian countries that export millions of pounds of shrimp," said Zak.

Besides exporting fresh chilled shrimp, Saipan SyAqua's niche market is also those into organic food products.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
Saipan SyAqua Aquaculture operations manager Rommel G. Catalma checks on some of the shrimp at the local shrimp farm in China Town yesterday. The local company is now exporting fresh chilled shrimp to the U.S. mainland through Seattle, just months after it started exporting to the Guam military and civilian market in December.

"These are organic shrimp and antibiotics used... We go because there are no pesticides after the kind of customers that

expect quality and who can tell the difference between frozen and chilled shrimp," Zak added.

Saipan SyAqua, owned by businessman Anthony Pellegrino, is also the only company in the CNMI that has been able to export parent shrimp or broodstock to Vietnam and Indonesia. Zak said exporting broodstock is a significant portion of the local farm business.

"As Mr. Pellegrino said, we can grow more than what the local market needs, and this is why we export to Guam and now to the U.S. We also export broodstock to Asian countries," Zak added.

The consultant said Saipan SyAqua has been working with Triple B to ship the fresh chilled shrimp to Seattle within 17 hours after the shipment leaves Saipan. Zak said Triple B has been "fairly service-oriented" to help local businesses like Saipan SyAqua.

"We are selling fresh chilled shrimp, not frozen, so shelf life

is very critical," said Catalma. The shrimp arrives alive at the intended destination.

## 10 pct. off price

Fresh chilled shrimp costs more than frozen shrimp. On Saipan alone, a pound of medium-sized fresh chilled shrimp from Saipan SyAqua costs \$8, whereas frozen shrimp of the same quantity and size costs about \$5.

For the month of August, however, Saipan SyAqua is reducing the price of its fresh chilled shrimp by 10 percent for retail and wholesale.

Saipan SyAqua started exporting chilled shrimp to the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy commissaries in Guam in December. It also supplies shrimp to hotels and other businesses in Guam, even though there are four shrimp farms on the island.

Zak said Guam is a "very competitive market." He said the company's experience in exporting shrimp to Guam taught them a lot of things which

they now use to enter the U.S. mainland market, including shipment, frequency of flights, freight cost, and transporting or handling the product by the time it leaves the plane.

Currently, Saipan SyAqua is the only shrimp farm outside of Hawaii that exports Pacific white shrimp broodstock. This is because under the law, only U.S. territories are allowed to export the broodstock of that particular specie since it was developed by Hawaii's Oceanic Institute.

It has also passed stringent requirements, including a two-year disease-free certification from the University of Arizona and then pass the inspection of the department of fisheries of the particular country it is exporting to.

At any given time, Saipan SyAqua has a million shrimps at its facility in China Town. Production, meanwhile, is around 6,000 lbs a month and increasing.



## MARIANAS SWEET SHRIMP

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## MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Special Meeting to be held on Saturday, August 8, 2009 beginning at 9:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I. **PRELIMINARIES**
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda
- II. **CONSULTANT'S REPORTS**
  - Investment Consultant Reports
    - o Performance Reports - June 2009
    - o Asset Allocation Study - Part 2
- III. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.
- IV. **MISCELLANEOUS**
- V. **ADJOURNMENT**

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Vianney B. Hocog  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



## COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
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<http://www.vote.cnmi.gov.mp/>

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (a) and (b), the Commonwealth Election Commission, hereby give notice that the Commonwealth Election Commission will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 8, 2009, at the Commonwealth Election Commission office on Capitol Hill, Saipan. Additional information concerning this meeting is available at the office of the Commonwealth Election Commission, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

#### AGENDA

- I. **Preliminary Matters**
  - a. Roll call
  - b. Adoption of agenda
  - c. Adoption of June 29, 2009 Meeting Minutes
- II. **Executive Director's Report**
- III. **New Business**
  - a. Adoption of Commission Resolution No. 09-003
  - b. Tinian Polling Place
  - c. Ballot Layout
- IV. **Miscellaneous**
- V. **Adjournment**

/s/ FRANCES M. SABLAN  
Chairwoman

(The Commission, pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, may vote to meet in executive session to consult legal counsel and discuss personnel matters.)

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# Workshop updates NMI's emergency preparedness plan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Representatives of various government agencies involved with emergency response joined a two-day course, "Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities," with resources speakers from the Homeland Security Programs at West Virginia University conducting the workshop.

Facilitator Thomas J. Camacho said this is to prepare a plan for the CNMI in case of major emergencies and revise the islands' already outdated emergency preparedness plan.

He said what is lacking is how to deal with persons with disabilities during emergency situations, especially those who need medical assistance.

"We want to be able to identify what location is the pickup station," explained Camacho, who is a special assistant for the Office of Disability Policy and Programs under the Office of the Governor.

The training is part of identifying what kind of technology is necessary and how to transport individuals with special needs.



Resources speakers William Klein and Kristen Rogers from the Homeland Security Programs of the West Virginia University and Thomas J. Camacho of the CNMI Disability Policy and Program take a break during the ongoing short course "Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities" at the Saipan World Resort.

Camacho said this would also give them a chance to involve service providers, utility companies, the Department of Public Health, and Commonwealth Health Center.

Camacho estimates the CNMI has over 8,000 individuals with disabilities and special medical needs like diabetics and other patients.

Resource speakers from the

West Virginia University are William Klein and Kristen Rogers.

The purpose of the course is to address the need to incorporate special needs considerations into the development of

emergency plans.

Klein said the training uses a strategic multi-disciplinary universal planning approach to provide information for and encourage partnerships between emergency personnel and special needs organizations with the resources necessary during disasters.

Another course, which will be conducted today, will involve officials from the Public School System.

"We will identify what to address and what to do in emergency situations, especially the issues among students and faculty," Klein said.

He said this is a chance to identify who would be in charge of preparedness and response systems and to develop an emergency plan for all hazards.

This is the first training of its kind being conducted on Saipan.

"There are a lot of good things going in here. The most important thing is to bring in the various target groups to develop such a plan," he said.

Klein and Rogers will also conduct a similar workshop in Guam next week.

## Suspect in extortion try nabbed anew for contempt

One of four persons who allegedly attacked a man in an extortion attempt was arrested again in San Antonio last Friday for contempt of court.

Detective Christopher Leon Guerrero said he arrested Guo Fu Shan after an inspection at his residence showed he was not around on Friday night—a violation of his bail conditions.

Leon Guerrero said the third party custodian was in the area, but could not find Shan.

Shan later arrived and was arrested.

A \$21,500 cash bail was initially imposed for the defendant's temporary liberty for contempt of court. A bail hearing was set Monday afternoon.

The detective said he and Police Officer Daniel Quitagua visited the residence of Shan on Friday at 7:08pm, but the defendant was not there.

Shan and three other persons were arrested in June for allegedly beating up a man and threatening to throw him off Suicide Cliff.

Shan also allegedly tried to bribe Detective Leon Guerrero with \$1,000 in exchange for his release from jail.

The victim in the beating was taken to the hospital for head injuries. One suspect allegedly used a hollow block to hit the victim's head.

One of the suspects allegedly demanded \$200 to \$300 monthly as protection money from the victim and his wife. The defendants denied the charges.

Last July 21, Shan posted bail. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## EMO warning vs high surf remains

West winds in the Philippine Sea will produce large west swells for much of this week, based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam. The swell will continue to produce hazardous surf on west facing reefs through Thursday night.

The CNMI Emergency Management Office's high surf advisory remains in effect until 6am Friday. High surf and dangerous rip currents will affect exposed reefs and beaches. Expect hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet on west facing reefs until Thursday night.

Today, Aug. 5, west winds will be 5 to 15 knots, while wind waves will be 3 feet, with west swells of 6 to 8 feet, with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

The EMO is strongly advising the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along west facing reefs, as rip currents will be life threatening. (EMO)

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# Aldan spends just \$40 and gets a brand new Yaris

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Twenty-five-year-old father of two Gilbert Aldan spent \$40 to buy two booklets of tickets for the recent Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Las Vegas Night. The grand prize at stake was either a \$10,000 cash loot or a brand new car from Microl Toyota.

Aldan preferred to take the car—a blue brand new Toyota Yaris worth a little less than \$10,000.

"I picked the car because I know it has more value than the cash," said Aldan, moments after being handed the key to his prize, along with the other major winners yesterday at the Rotary's regular meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The prize will have 30-percent deduction, which would mean that if he took the



Las Vegas Night grand winner Gilbert Aldan shows off the key of his brand new Toyota Yaris, which was turned over to him by Microl general manager Doug Brennan, and officers from the Rotary Club of Saipan led by Kim Forrester yesterday at the main entrance of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

\$10,000, he would take home only about \$7,000.

Aldan was not present when his name was called out as the winner on July 20 but he said he was there earlier but had left as he didn't really expect to get any prize.

Co-employees at the Fiesta Resort and Spa where he works as a guest relation agent told him a day after about his win, although he still couldn't believe it until confirmation came from the Rotary.

It was at the same hotel that the Las Vegas Night was held.

Microl general manager Doug Brennan turned the key and documents of the car to Aldan, who showed up with his 7-year-old and 2-year-old sons and his mother.

"He still doesn't know what to do with the car. He may sell it but he likes it. He has a secondhand Toyota car," Mrs. Al-

dan said.

Last year, the grand winner preferred to take the cash.

Rotary president Kim Forrester said they were able to raise about \$12,000 in net proceeds from the event.

"We're planning to make it earlier next year," he said.

Except for Naomi Boyer, who won the first prize of \$3,000, all other major winners were present to receive their prizes.

They were second prize winner Rose Mesina (\$2,000), third prize winner Rick Alejandro (\$1,000), Tim Bellas (\$500) and Pat Tudela (\$500).

Nolia R. Muellersman won a round trip ticket to Japan, while Jenny Tem won a round trip ticket to the Philippines.

Tem was not around to receive the ticket from Delta-Northwest representatives Chris Concepcion and Karl Reyes II.

## PUC wants independence from CNMI govt

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission wants to be independent of the government so it can effectively carry out its functions as a regulatory agency and free its members from political pressure.

CPUC chair Viola Alepuyo on Friday asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitia and the presiding officers of the Legislature to make it happen by repealing the law that ties its operation with the government.

Press secretary Charles Reyes Jr. said yesterday that the administration will look into the concerns raised by the commission and will work with the Legislature on possible amendments to the existing law.

"We appreciate CPUC's concerns and we are willing to look into this issue with the Legisla-

ture. The administration has to follow and enforce existing law. If CPUC wishes to amend the law, that has to be taken up with the Legislature," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune*.

Under the existing law, the commission may only enter into contracts and execute instruments in the exercise of its powers upon approval of the director of Procurement and Supply, Secretary of Finance, the Governor, and the Attorney General's Office.

"The requirement that every commission contract must be reviewed and approved by each of these government officials materially compromises the commission's independence," Alepuyo told the governor and the Legislature.

She asked that its authority to enter contracts, without the review and approval of other government officials, be clarified

and confirmed by an amendment to the law.

Recently, the commission submitted a \$193,000 administrative budget for Fiscal Year 2010.

Alepuyo also asked the governor to remove the requirement of the law that its operating revenues—which are paid by the regulated utilities—be subject to appropriation and wants to empower the commission to have custody and control of its own funds and to enter into contracts in its own name.

She recommends that the governor clearly empower the commission to regulate cable providers in accordance with the federal franchise process.

These requests, according to her, are both reasonable and necessary to empower the commission to effectively discharge its duty to ensure that utility ratepayers receive quality service at

just and reasonable rates.

The commission has two types of operational expenses: administrative and regulatory expenses.

Administrative expenses include rent, utilities, supplies, and others that will be funded by an annual assessment on regulated utilities.

Alepuyo said that compared to the Guam Public Utilities Commission's current annual administrative budget of \$260,000, CPUC is asking for only \$193,000, which contain a one-time \$60,000 to pay for professional expenses incurred in FY 2009 in order to craft procedural rules.

It was learned that the commission did not establish an administrative budget in FY09.

For regulatory expenses, items included are professional fees and expenses that are incurred in utility specific

dockets and are billed to the involved utility.

"The appropriation requirement also runs contrary to the fact that the commission is established as an independent agency. In contrast, the Guam PUC, which is also established as an independent commission,

is authorized to charge its regulated utilities for its operational budget without any appropriation process involvement," Alepuyo said, adding that it conflicts with the principle that a rate setting commission should be independent of the political process.

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Elijah Jesseb Fleming Elias who turns 12 today! We are so proud of you, son! We love you so much! God bless you! Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy, your brothers Noah and Isaiah and the rest of the family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## SHIPPING SCHEDULE



Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENOKO	025E	7/25 Sat	7/23 Thu	7/23 Thu	7/21 Tue	7/18 Sat	7/31 Fri	7/27 Mon	7/26 Sun	7/19 Sun	7/19 Sun	7/27 Mon	7/31 Fri	8/2 Sun	8/4 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	024E	8/1 Sat	7/30 Thu	7/30 Thu	7/28 Tue	7/25 Sat	8/7 Fri	8/3 Mon	8/2 Sun	7/26 Sun	7/26 Sun	8/3 Mon	8/7 Fri	8/9 Sun	8/11 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	017E	8/8 Sat	8/6 Thu	8/6 Thu	8/4 Tue	8/1 Sat	8/14 Fri	8/10 Mon	8/9 Sun	8/2 Sun	8/2 Sun	8/10 Mon	8/14 Fri	8/16 Sun	8/18 Tue
MELL SENOKO	026E	8/15 Sat	8/13 Thu	8/13 Thu	8/11 Tue	8/8 Sat	8/21 Fri	8/17 Mon	8/16 Sun	8/9 Sun	8/9 Sun	8/17 Mon	8/21 Fri	8/23 Sun	8/25 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	025E	8/22 Sat	8/20 Thu	8/20 Thu	8/18 Tue	8/15 Sat	8/28 Fri	8/24 Mon	8/23 Sun	8/16 Sun	8/16 Sun	8/24 Mon	8/28 Fri	8/30 Sun	9/1 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	018E	8/29 Sat	8/27 Thu	8/27 Thu	8/25 Tue	8/22 Sat	9/4 Fri	8/31 Mon	8/30 Sun	8/23 Sun	8/23 Sun	8/31 Mon	9/4 Fri	9/6 Sun	9/8 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA GenSan	ETA Davao	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENOKO	025E	8/8 Sat	8/9 Sun	8/9 Sun	8/11 Tue	8/13 Thu	8/14 Fri	8/16 Sun	8/18 Tue	8/21 Fri	8/22 Sat	8/27 Thu	9/15 Tue	8/30 Sun
MELL SENTOSA	024E	8/15 Sat	8/16 Sun	8/16 Sun	SKIP	8/20 Thu	8/21 Fri	8/23 Sun	8/25 Tue	8/28 Fri	8/29 Sat	9/3 Thu	9/22 Tue	9/6 Sun
MELL SEMBAWANG	017E	8/22 Sat	8/23 Sun	8/23 Sun	8/25 Tue	8/27 Thu	8/28 Fri	8/30 Sun	9/1 Tue	9/4 Fri	9/5 Sat	9/10 Thu	9/29 Tue	9/13 Sun
MELL SENOKO	026E	8/29 Sat	8/30 Sun	8/30 Sun	SKIP	9/3 Thu	9/4 Fri	9/6 Sun	9/8 Tue	9/11 Fri	9/12 Sat	9/17 Thu	10/6 Tue	9/20 Sun
MELL SENTOSA	025E	9/5 Sat	9/6 Sun	9/6 Sun	9/8 Tue	9/10 Thu	9/11 Fri	9/13 Sun	9/15 Tue	9/18 Fri	9/19 Sat	9/24 Thu	10/13 Tue	9/27 Sun
MELL SEMBAWANG	018E	9/12 Sat	9/13 Sun	9/13 Sun	SKIP	9/17 Thu	9/18 Fri	9/20 Sun	9/22 Tue	9/25 Fri	9/26 Sat	10/1 Thu	10/20 Tue	10/4 Sun

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# 'Zoning administrator is playing politics'

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres said new Zoning administrator, Victor Barrett, must be playing politics in reaction to the latter's recent statements about a move to suspend the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law.

Torres had filed a bill to suspend the law for six months but Barrett had said this could lead to a repeat of what happened in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

Torres said Barrett is only aggravating the issue because the New Orleans issue is a different matter.

Torres said the administrator is ignoring the fact that it is not only the zoning board that has a say in permit applications.

Even if the zoning board approves any application for a permit, Torres said there are also other agencies that will be involved such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management and even Public Health.

"Is he ignoring these agencies?" Torres asked.

The zoning office did not

answer several e-mail inquiries for comments as of yesterday afternoon.

Earlier this week, Barrett announced that the Commonwealth Zoning Board has shelved the application of a permit for an incinerator and treatment facility submitted by a waste oil-processing firm in one of Saipan's tourism areas.



Torres

This, he said, is a current and real example of what could happen if the zoning law is suspended. This waste oil process incinerator could open at this location theoretically the day after the zoning law is suspended.

The board said that suspending the law could lead to a similar experience of New Orleans when the suspension of the zoning law after Hurricane Katrina resulted in the construction of a debris landfill in the heart of an Asian community.

Torres said the bill he filed is expected to be tackled when the 30-day comment period lapses next week.

Torres filed House Local Bill 16-39 to suspend the zoning law to allow the zoning office to address "the unintended consequences of its implementation."

Torres reiterated that he does not want to support a law that would have an adverse effect on the community.

## Maori voyaging canoe launched in Auckland

### 'Waka' to sail to Hawaii, Cook Isles next year

**RAROTONGA, Cook Islands** (Cook Islands News/PIR)—A new 'waka hourua' (double-hulled vessel) has been launched by Ngati Kahungunu to sail among a fleet to Hawaii and later feature as part of the Rugby World Cup 2011 celebrations in Hawke's Bay.

Cook Island Voyaging Society members helped build the waka and were at the launch

on July 15 from the Salthouse boat builders yard in Greenhithe, Auckland.

The waka is the third to be built in the same design as the Cook Islands and Samoa ocean voyaging canoes.

The Cook Islands waka, Marumarua Atua, was launched in April and is modeled on Te Au O Tonga which is berthed in Avatiu wharf.

The waka's first major outing will be its maiden voyage from Rarotonga to Hawai'i in around May or June next year with other Pacific canoes.

The fleet will sail to Hawai'i at the invitation of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and the Makali'i Voyaging Society.

The participating groups intend to celebrate the formation of Pacific Voyagers—a network

of voyaging groups in American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Tahiti, Tonga and Western Samoa, which was formed in February.

The Pacific Voyagers' network project has won funding and support from the Okeanos Foundation, an international philanthropic organization based in Germany, formed with the objective of protecting the ocean environment and marine life.



### THEY CAME A-COURTIN'

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, seated far left, poses for a group photo with representatives from Xanadu Club Inc., an organization based in China that aims to provide its members with opportunities that will enhance their quality of life through various real estate developments. The visiting officials also discussed with Fernandez and John Manalo of NMC's Community Development Institute, standing far right, a possible agreement that will help its members attend NMC for English, nursing and other degree programs.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



### CAR MISHAP

A police officers checks on one of the cars involved in a car collision along Middle Road near H-Mart and XO Mart at about 12am on Sunday.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

AUG. 5, 1999

### PSS gets \$30M for CIP projects

An appropriation measure setting aside nearly \$30 million in fresh funds for various infrastructure projects of the Public School System was signed into law yesterday, a week after the Legislature acted swiftly on the request of the Board of Education. Despite objections to two key provisions, acting Gov. Jesus R. Sablan said he approved the proposal in order to expedite these critical projects for the public schools. The funding for Public Law 11-89 came from the recent sale of the PSS bonds worth some \$15.6 million, which proceeds were used to match equal amount of federal construction grants under the Capital Improvement Projects/Covenant program.

### Chamber opposes wage hike

Majority of the members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce who attended yesterday's regular monthly were against any move that would raise the minimum wage. Only two were in favor of increasing the present \$3.05 hourly wage, while two were indifferent on the issue. Despite much prodding from acting Chamber President Gregg Kresge, only few of the 54 Chamber members who showed up in the meeting gave their views. The meeting was attended by the Special Industry Wage Review Committee.

AUG. 5, 2002

### Emergency powers invoked

Faced with a projected \$18 million deficit, acting Gov. Diego T. Benavente has invoked his emergency powers under the Planning and Budgeting Act to freeze and impound all government funds, including that of the Legislature, the Judiciary and municipalities. Benavente said this decision stems from the refusal of the House of Representatives to grant the Babauta administration's request to allow it to go beyond the \$193 million budget level set for Fiscal Year 2002. The acting Governor clarified, though, that the emergency impoundment of government monies will only be until September 30, the end of the fiscal year, and will not apply to autonomous government agencies that do not receive funds from the CNMI Treasury.

### Senate to reconsider request?

If it is still relevant and possible, the Senate is considering passing a measure that would grant Gov. Juan N. Babauta what he had asked the House of Representatives for: a waiver on the penalty provision of the Planning and Budgeting Act so it could go beyond the \$193 million spending limit. This comes even as the Babauta administration remains waiting for the Legislature to approve the impoundment of government funds, as declared by acting Gov. Diego T. Benavente Friday in response to the lower chamber's refusal to grant the administration's request.

AUG. 5, 2003

### Manglona, Quitugua bolt from GOP

Commission of Elections executive director Greg Sablan tells political aspirant, Luis M. Sablan of Rota, seated, that it was impossible for him to beat the deadline since he still lacks important legal documents such as his organizational committee. Rota's Sablan arrived to fill out his candidacy form a few minutes before the 4:30pm deadline yesterday. (Liberty Dones) Senate president Paul Manglona of the ruling Republican Party has decided to run independently, together with Rota Rep. Daniel Quitugua, following the Rota-Republican Party's exclusion of Quitugua's name from its official mid-term election lineup. The two independent candidates beat yesterday's 4:30pm deadline set by the Commission of Elections for filing candidacies.

### Filipinos without US visa barred from using Guam airport as layover point

The Commonwealth Ports Authority disclosed yesterday that close monitoring of passengers without U.S. visas entering the Northern Marianas would be strictly implemented to determine how the suspension of Transit Without Visa and International-To-International programs would affect Saipan as tourist destination. CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said the ports authority would also clarify with the Department of Homeland Security the status of the CNMI-Guam hubbing arrangement since it would affect Saipan-bound passengers. "We would like to know how the Homeland Security department would address this concern since Continental Airlines, which operates a hub out of Guam, is one of Saipan's major carriers. We would also clarify how this would affect Saipan as destination and if there is a way—other than to reroute flight plans—to resolve this," Salas said.



# Petition vs more minimum wage hikes en route to DC

**UTULEI, American Samoa**—This U.S. territory's governor, Togiola Tulafono, and first lady Mary Ann Tulafono are en route to Washington D.C. with other top leaders to present to the White House a minimum wage petition signed by over 12,000 residents of American Samoa in hope to reestablish a fairer scheme of determining minimum wage increases for the people of American Samoa.

The petition asks President Barack Obama to convince Congress to 1) Reverse the increases mandated by Public Law 110-28 leaving only the new initial \$0.50 per hour increase and 2) Reinstate the Special Industry Committee process for determining minimum wages in the territory. Signatories maintain that it is inappropriate and unrealistic to apply U.S. mainland wage standards to American Samoa's economy.

"With respect to the island's weakening economy, three escalators have now gone into place, and the minimum wage has increased substantially and disproportionately to inhibit economic growth," said Togiola.

The petition requests that provisions pertaining to American Samoa in the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-28) be repealed and returned to the process of setting minimum wage rates in the territory to Special Industry Committees.

The same implemented a similar minimum wage increase in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which was also opposed by local leaders. The increases, together with the lifting of world trade restrictions, have resulted in the death of the islands' once vibrant garment manufacturing industry.

"American Samoa needs a new system to determine increases in minimum wages conducive to the previous Industry Committee that met every two years," said Togiola. "Back then, they would hold a hearing and take evidence as to how much an increase in the several categories of minimum wage should be increased in accordance with relevant economic information and analysis that supports the economy and prevent losses of jobs."

The passage of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 put into motion the slow demise and destruction of American Samoa's economy as the first signs of truth were revealed when the announcement of the Chicken of the Sea cannery closing in September resulting in an expected loss of 2,041 jobs. Jobs are already lost as a direct impact of the last three wage escalators, the most recent being in May 2009. The impact of the canneries' closing will have rippling effects throughout the island's community, and through all its sectors. Jobs have already been lost across the board, and the other cannery is affecting another layoff of 200 to 300 employees.

"The unfortunate part of this was the promise to have higher wages is now the demise of the very people that this law was supposed to help. This thing is killing us," said Togiola. "Of course, when Samoa Packing closes, it also terminates all the salaried employees that have nothing to do with minimum wages, but must pay the price for the imposition of minimum wages." **(PR)**

## NMC board launches scholarship for Education majors

The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents announced yesterday the availability of a scholarship program designed for students pursuing a bachelor's degree in education at the college.

"We are extremely pleased to be offering these scholarships in time for the Fall 2009 semester," said Charles Cepeda, chairperson of the NMC Board of Regents. "The scholarship program that the Regents approved will help identify and encourage the next generation of educators and educational leaders."

The scholarship program aims to:

- 1) promote higher education by providing financial assistance for college students in their pursuit of professional careers;
- 2) help alleviate the critical current and future shortage of skilled and trained workforce for the CNMI; and,
- 3) provide current public and private sector employees with opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills, and enhance their career and professional development.

"We strongly encourage all education students to apply and take advantage of this scholarship opportunity," added Cepeda.

The scholarships are based on merit and financial need and will be awarded to the recipients on the bases of the candidate's community involvement, academic background, letters of



Cepeda

recommendation, and a written essay. An interview may also be required.

Recipients of the scholarship will receive up to \$500 per semester for up to eight semesters or up

to the completion of a bachelor's degree, whichever is sooner.

To be eligible, a student must

### CONTACT INFO

NMC's Financial Aid Office  
Tel: 234-5498 Ext. 1527  
Web: [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu)

be a U.S. citizen (or green card holder) and a CNMI resident for the past three years; be accepted and enrolled as a full-

time student at NMC; have a high school or college cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better; and, be able to demonstrate financial need.

If selected to receive the scholarship, the applicant must also sign an agreement stating that he or she will work in the Commonwealth after graduating from the Northern Marianas College for a period twice as long as the period for which the applicant received the NMC Board of Regents Scholarship.

The deadline for submitting applications to the NMC Financial Aid Office is Aug. 21, 2009. Applications and additional information can be downloaded from [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu), or contact NMC's Financial Aid Office at 234-5498 extension 1527. **(NMC)**

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 18th birthday to Ashley Fujihira! Welcome to adult life. We wish you all the best in your journey as you leave us on Sunday, Aug. 9 to pursue your dream. Your family is so proud of you. May God guide and protect you with every step you take. We love you so much. Love always, Dad, Mom, Francine, Keane, Leighton, Vanessa, and Byron. We will truly miss you.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipattamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

### Priniponen Atkilon Tanu Publiku

Notisia ginen i Depattamienton Tanu Publiku: Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku espesifikamente Tanu Numeru 076 D 15, poku mas o' menus 3,000 metru kuatdrao minidoñña gi katan estatuan Matsue giya Garapan. I mapa yan todo infotmasyon pot este na tanu gaige gi depattamienton tanu giya Dandan, segundu bibi-enda gi Joeten Dandan Building.

I para u inatila este na lugat i Marianas Fitness, Ltd., un' kompania guine. I membron kuetpon este na kompania i sigiente siha: Russel D. Quinn, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexford C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela Gabaldon, Christopher J. Nelson, and Brett D. Nelson.

I offisiat siha i sigiente: Russell D. Quinn, presidente; Marian Aldan-Pierce, segundu presidente; Rexford C. Kosack, sekretariu; yan Yoshio S. Gabaldon, tesorariu. I kontratan este na atkilon manegosiu as Señor Kosack yan Señora Aldan-Pierce.

I umatikikila este na tanu publiku libre umusa i lugat pot bisnis eksisiu taimanu i gaige pago na fasilidat gi Marianas Fitness, Ltd. I tetminon atkilon bente siñku años (25 years) yan appottunadat ma-ekstenden este na atkilon talu kinse años (15 years).

I atkilon tanu kada sakan guaha figura mapega halom guine na kontrata segun i balin i lugat ni monhayan esta marikonose gi hilu i mafananaan "appraisal" ripot (katkulon balin tanu) ginen un' kualifikao na kompania.

I Depattamenton Tano taya otro plano ha resibe gi uson este siha na propiadat publiko giya Garapan, Saipan.

Kopian este na proposito gaige gi todo offisinan tanu publiku entalu Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Libre kada sudadanu rumikonose este na dokumentu. I kabesanten depattamintun tanu publiku siña in' tiglie' yangin guaha sentimentun miyu pot i mapropopone. Este na anunsio areglon Lai Publiku 15-2. I utitimu haanen muna' halom opiñon i Agosto dia 7, 2009 gi todo Offisinan Tano Publiku giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammatat igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyghii, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwilil falúweer toulap me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoor, lamar aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No 076 D 15, eyoor eluww sangaras llapal (3, 000 square meters), elapéló me ngáre eghús, elo Liyo, Luuta. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Marianas Fitness, Ltd., CNMI corporation. Schóóy Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellól corporation nge Russel D. Quinn, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexford C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela N. Gabaldon, Chistopher I. Nelson, me Brett D. Nelson..

Samwoolul (President) corporation nge Russell D. Quinn.. Arúschayúl assamwool (vice president) nge Marian Aldan-Pierce. Sekkeretorio nge Rexford C. Kosack. Treasurer nge Yoshio S. Gabaldon..

- Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Rexford C. Kosack me Ms. Marian Aldan-Pierce..
- Schóól akkilon ebwe yááli bwuley reel mwóghutufisch ngáre leliyal ammey (fitness gymnasium) fengál me wiisal..

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).

Pomwol akkilon yeel llól alongal ráágh nge ebwe mwir sáangi llapal méél falúw ( value of the property) me bwal meeta kka e akkayú mellól bwuley yeel.

- Tilighial akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi mereel bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Tuturam, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Arabwal, Seipél..
- Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal August (Elúwel) 7, 2009 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyól.

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 076 D 15, containing an area of approximately 3,000 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Marianas Fitness, Ltd., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Russell D. Quinn, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexford C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela N. Gabaldon, Christopher J. Nelson, and Brett D. Nelson.

The President of the Corporation is Russell D. Quinn. The Vice President is Marian Aldan-Pierce. The Secretary is Rexford C. Kosack. The Treasurer is Yoshio S. Gabaldon.

- The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Rexford C. Kosack and Ms. Marian Aldan-Pierce.

- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of operating an all-purpose fitness gymnasium and other related support facilities.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Garapan, Saipan.

- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before August 7, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Dollars for schools

President Obama is unabashed in his demand that any state wanting extra educational dollars share in his administration's reform agenda.

That means tougher standards, more charter schools and holding teachers accountable. It's encouraging that even before a penny has been doled out, this aggressive stance is forcing states to rethink traditional approaches to education.

Proposed guidelines for the more than \$4 billion in the Race to the Top Fund were unveiled last week, with the president and Education Secretary Arne Duncan making clear they don't want more of the same, failed policies—or politics—of the past. Armed with the largest amount ever of discretionary funding for K-12 school reform, the administration promises to eschew politics, ideology and the preferences of interest groups for “what works.” Criteria for the grants range from how charter schools are funded to whether teacher pay is linked to student achievement. Any doubt that the administration means business is dispelled by its decision to disqualify any state that bars linking student data to teacher evaluations.

The tough requirements—preceded by equally blunt warnings from Mr. Duncan about what would happen to states that resist change—seem to be hitting home. Some legislatures, such as those in Rhode Island and Tennessee, have already acted to make their states more hospitable to charter schools. In California, which could lose out because of its regressive policy limiting the use of student data, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, R, has vowed to make the necessary changes to the law so that his state can compete for the grants.

No doubt, though, there will be pushback. There is a review period before the regulations are finalized, and the two largest teachers unions, with their Democratic allies in Congress, have expressed unease. Some states are looking for loopholes to get around the rules. And there are those who think the federal government is overstepping its role and sticking its nose into state business by setting conditions. Congress cannot overrule the administration on how this money—part of the \$100 billion in education aid included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—is awarded, but the worry is that an administration in search of votes to reform health care could compromise education reform. Mr. Duncan, with the president's backing, has shown great resolve in taking his message for change across the country. We trust that neither he nor the president will waver now.

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## ACT Three

By JAIME VERGARA  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Association of Commonwealth Teachers, in choosing a dynamic acronym, set themselves up for clear accountability on the basis of deeds rather than policy formulation. Accomplishment is measured on movement rather than clarity or force of expression. Those are, of course, never exclusive of each other, but the pull of abstractions tends to lean toward narrow definition than broad context. Thus, our personal preference to the doers before the knowers.

The names of those who were identified with ACT, in my limited recollection, included a Roger and a Sappuro who were depicted as a man of stature, forceful and determined; a Franklin and an Ambrose known to be assertive and aggressive, though not altogether welcome in the company of those whose feathers they had ruffled, a James and an Angie who advocated for teachers' rights and prerogatives, and facilitated group involvement and participation; and Betty and Jeff who took on the mantle of either continuing to be adversarial, confrontational and sometimes, coercive, or be a congenial, amiable, and often compliant partner in the larger task of education, of which, obviously but not always acknowledged, the teacher play a critical role. Or both.

Let us for the moment assume that two Acts in a three-ACT play has since come to pass. We are not clear whether the coming school year will see Sam Joyner add his indelible signature as he assumes guardianship of the next watch of the system's pedagogues. What is clear is that continuing the way things have been, whether among teachers, or the field of education in general, cannot be sustained if we were to transform the high failure rate of our current graduates either in academic and career advancement, or just simple employment.

As it is in any community development endeavor, trying to solve existing problems is a quagmire that has the sucking force of a quicksand. It usually begins with decrying what is, bemoaning the absence of that which is wished for, and blaming the personnel who had labored before for being either ineffective, inefficient, benignly negligent, or at worst, malfeasant.

We have since learned that whether the technology of transformation is applied to individuals or social aggregation, one begins with the inventory of existing assets rather than repeating the litany of things and situations absent or not currently prevailing, of affirming things existing and concretely abiding, as gifts and opportunities rather than constraints and contradictions. In terms of actors and those acted upon, there is no one else but those willing to sit around the conference tables who can be relied upon, or to put it substantially, the warm bodies that show up at meetings are IT! Indeed, they who see the need, they do the deed!

There is no doubt that there exist amongst the PSS personnel individuals who have experienced radical transformation to seeing the

By JAIME VERGARA  
Special to the Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



reality of the times and the authentic demand of the locations where they live. The broad strokes of an economy globalized, with the indiscriminate use of resources no longer cognizant of national boundaries, and the employment of the least costly labor force mapped, exploited, and a definite determining influence in the movement of trade and commerce; a political process that is no longer subservient to traditional privileged status but has become more unruly as the diversity in the human sector continues to defy the reactionary defensiveness of corporate empires and exclusive vested interests; cultures no longer just defined by the learned and the privileged few in the industrialized and civilized world to a life understanding that is returning to that borne by the native earth, its earthy women and youth, the marginalized disabled and the segregated minorities, the excluded and the perennial poor, all clamoring with intensity and force not only to have access to the droppings under the table of the well-mannered but to be seated around the same table with the raucous and rambunctious many.

What is new in our time is the discovery of our inescapable interdependence as a planet, the realization of the power of working together cooperatively and collaboratively, and the satisfaction that the facticity of birth already confers innate value on everyone, thus giving cosmic permission for everyone to learn how to celebrate and celebrate well the unfolding of their existence and the blossoming of their essence. We have been liberated from enslavement of the past into recreating the way we tell its story, and terror of the future which is already with us, allowing us to create the path on which we journey.

PSS and ACT need to start promoting meetings of frontline troops that do not just define immediate issues such as entry level qualifications, living wages and salaries, certifications and tenures and HQTs, but more importantly, hold extended and meaningful conversations of our new expanded global/local (*glocal*) context.

This investment on social capital that the business sector has come to appropriate from the social sciences' discovery of networking as the fabric of society applied to marketing and finance, and physics' synergy as the unit of productivity injected into organizational development, may be intentionally and systematically applied to teachers' conventions, conferences, and professional development sessions.

Sharing approaches that work would push the relevance of bottom-up experience. What is often referred to as research-based

See ACT on Page 11



**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# My ‘To Know’ List

*The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!*

■ ■ ■  
**Announcing: Walt’s PassionProfit Workshop Coming Soon! RSVP requested. Will you attend a PassionProfit and/or writer’s workshop held at a soon-to-be-determined location (perhaps a school or Multi-Purpose Center) if held on a Saturday morning (9am-12pm) or Sunday afternoon (2pm-5pm) in August? Please e-mail walt@passionprofit.com with the words “will attend.” Please indicate your preferred day and time in the e-mail. If enough people respond, it will happen!**

■ ■ ■  
Many years ago, I read *A Return to Love* by Marianne Williamson, in which she states something akin to “*whenever we are stuck in life, many of us think there is something we need to do. There is, perhaps more importantly, something we simply need to know.*” The concepts in some books stay with you for a lifetime. This was one of those.

The reason most of us get stuck in life is because we harbor belief systems that limit our potential and our success. We spend our time worrying needlessly, obsessing over things we cannot change and fears that aren’t real.

What’s troubling you at this very moment? Are you worried about paying bills? Are you afraid you won’t find a partner to share your life? Are you in debt? Are business sales down? Whatever the issue, it likely stems from fears and misperceptions that are crippling you. At times like these, what you *know* may be more valuable than what you do.

## Introducing the ‘To Know’ List?

As an entrepreneur, my “To Do” list is often quite lengthy, with Web sites to update, e-mails to send, books to edit, columns to write, coaching sessions to conduct, interviews to grant, and so on. Sometimes, however, my list gets longer and longer, but the amount of forward motion and progress I seem to be achieving gets shorter and shorter. Sales decrease, visits to Web sites fall off, and I feel like I’m spinning my wheels—stuck. At those times I invoke a strategy inspired by Marianne’s words. Instead of a “To Do” list, I make a “To Know” list.

A “To Know” list is a list of truths that dispel fears. For every fear and misperception that paralyzes or distracts you, there is a corresponding truth that, if you believed it, would set you free. It might amaze you what you can accomplish seemingly by doing nothing at all and simply reminding yourself of truths you should know and live by. However, before you can find your empowering truths, you first need to identify your fears and misconceptions.

## Sum of all fears

On a very basic level, the single greatest fear and misperception that afflicts mankind is the belief in separation: that we are alone, separate and powerless. Nothing could be further from the truth. Spiritualists, metaphysicians, occultists, philosophers and history’s most inspired thinkers teach that on a spiritual level we are all connected; that we are all one; that separateness is an illusion. In the most enlightened moments of meditation and ascension, those who have had such experiences will tell of their feelings of oneness and connectedness to all things. All other fears stem from this belief in separation, and result in

fears of insufficiency, lack and non-survival. The good news is they can be nullified by specific truths.

Are you struggling with debt and scarcity? Then perhaps you need to know that there is always abundance.

Are you feeling in the midst of chaos and uncertainty? Then perhaps you need to know that the universe is perfect.

Are you feeling inadequate? Then perhaps you need to know that you are enough.

The transformative truths about our true nature, reality and the universe can be gotten from any number of self-help, spiritual and inspirational texts. Seek them out.

## Act like you know

So, how would your life be different if you believed and knew these truths? How would you feel and act if, in the midst of chaos and uncertainty, you knew that things would work out because the universe is perfect? How would you feel and act if, in the middle of your loneliness, you had the absolute confidence that you would meet the perfect person at the right time? How would you feel and act if, in the midst of a slump in sales, you knew that abundance was your birthright? You would probably spend your time doing any number of other more positive and productive things rather than worrying about what may or may not happen. You would walk and talk fearlessly and confidently through life—which has the effect of attracting equally fearless and confident situations and people into your life, thus fulfilling the prophecy as it were.

## Lesson learned. Check, please!

For any given obstacle, fear or negative emotion, there is always at least one lesson (i.e. something you need to know) that is holding you back. I had a situation recently that had been gnawing at me for several days. I experienced an encounter with someone that left me feeling slighted. I felt I needed to counter tit for tat with a little show of power of my own. At the same time, I knew that that desire for justice, that urge to assert myself, beat him at his own game, and “win” this little confrontation was just my ego talking. Still, I stewed in it for several days until I “got” that I was being tested.

I remembered that whenever I’m feeling nervous, angry, cheated, or unjustly dealt with, that there’s something I needed to know. So I sat down and started writing my “To Know” list. I asked myself what lesson I was being taught, and remembered some words of wisdom a salesman once taught me: “*When your ego is up, your income is down.*” I found the answer I needed. In dealing with this perceived slight, I knew that my greatest good and personal growth would only be served by remaining above the fray and simply walking away. I accepted that any justice that needed to be exacted in this situation was not mine to dispense, and I took the high road.

Amazingly, within minutes—mere minutes—of choosing the high road, and suppressing my ego, a flurry of events started happening. Sales picked up. Web site visits increased. I found the perfect apartment I’d been looking for—all within 24 hours! Coincidence? Not a chance. Not in my reality!

## My private ‘To Know’ list

So, today I share the actual “To Know” list I used this week to get unstuck. (*Some have been omitted in the interest of modesty. After I wrote them, I dropped the “I need to know that” part and simply used the rest as affirmations.*)

*I need to know that there is abundance.  
I need to know that the universe is perfect.  
I need to know that I am enough.  
I need to know that my good is already here.*

During my time as the Credit and Collections Supervisor, I allowed several customers to avoid disconnection of their accounts for failing to pay their power bills on time. Each time I used my position with the corporation to help a customer avoid disconnection, the corporation lost the opportunity to collect revenues from those customers such as reconnection fees, late fees and interest from the customers. Though several of the account holders paid their bills with interest, sadly, there are some accounts holders that have not.

Because my actions violated CUC policy and caused CUC eco-

nomie harm, I accepted full responsibility for my actions. I have also agreed to pay back CUC for the fees, costs and utility charges that CUC was not able to collect. I deeply regret my actions. What at the time I believed were acts of compassion, I now realize were violations of CUC policies to treat the residents of the Commonwealth equally. For this, I ask your forgiveness and the understanding that I am righting the wrong.

Elaine Q. Terlaje  
As Terlaje, Saipan

ment and impact of experiments is more valuable than tabularized accomplishments (often fictitious) fed into graphs and charts for compliance consumption and public relations’ purposes.

Having but briefly injected my own proclivities into ACT affairs and running into the landmines of entrenched egos and competing personalities, Sam Joyner’s job will not come easy. But if the BoE and the Commission’s central structure see itself as an enabling support and proactive partner to many of the teachers’ creativity and

## THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

*Creating economic success for the CNMI*

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*I need to know that I am protected.  
I need to know that every battle need not be fought.  
I need to know that sometimes there is nothing to do but be thankful.  
I know that my apartment will come at the right time.  
I know that money always comes to me.*

## From woe to wow

As an interesting footnote: It wasn’t until I shifted my focus from lack to abundance and started looking for evidence of it, that I realized that during the month of July, I had actually sold more books through Amazon.com than during any month on record! Since Amazon won’t pay for July sales until 30 days later, all I was seeing was the net effect of all the expenditures on my account balance, while being totally oblivious to the abundance I was actually experiencing. Ahh, the things a refocused mind will finally see! (i.e., my good was already there!)

## The moral of the story

Having done all that I could do in the way of physical action, frantic activity, and fear and ego-based considerations, I shifted to mental action, silence and a knowingness of certain truths...and my path was made clear.

So, my suggestion to you this week is to spend some time working on your own “To Know” list. Start by writing down how you’re feeling. Then using my “To Know” list as a model, remind yourself of the truths (simply the desired reality or high road beliefs) that would set you free. Really get into the feeling of it, then think, speak and act as if you really believed and knew these truths, and see what happens. The results might surprise you!

■ ■ ■  
**Note:** Fans and followers of the book, *Chicken Feathers and Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Girl on Saipan* may now find copies at Bookseller Bookstore in the Joe-Ten Plaza in Susupe or on Amazon.com. Hurry, there’s a limited supply!

**Note:** Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that said good things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to [www.bestofsaipan.com/](http://www.bestofsaipan.com/)

**Note:** For more tips on overcoming your fears, acting on your ideas, changing the game, and creating a passion-centered lifestyle, visit [www.passionprofit.com/](http://www.passionprofit.com/)

■ ■ ■  
Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 15 books including *Turn Your Passion Into Profit*. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt’s philosophy and formula visit [www.saipanpreneur.com](http://www.saipanpreneur.com) and [www.passionprofit.com/](http://www.passionprofit.com/). Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to [walt@passionprofit.com](mailto:walt@passionprofit.com).

# Letter to the Editor

## Open letter of apology

To the people of the Commonwealth and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.: I am writing this letter to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., but more importantly to the people of the Commonwealth, to apologize for my actions as the Credit and Collections Supervisor for CUC.

## ACT

From Page 10

learning is but another abstraction from “authoritative” expects, the outputs graces our shelves but not our practices. It is time to return to facts as remembered and experienced by those who daily map the course of the learning process. Encouraging honesty in the assess-

ment and impact of experiments is more valuable than tabularized accomplishments (often fictitious) fed into graphs and charts for compliance consumption and public relations’ purposes.

Having but briefly injected my own proclivities into ACT affairs and running into the landmines of entrenched egos and competing personalities, Sam Joyner’s job will not come easy. But if the BoE and the Commission’s central structure see itself as an enabling support and proactive partner to many of the teachers’ creativity and

genius, before they are earnest bean counters of time cards and submitted assessment forms, we might just be on the way to faithfully fulfilling the intent of Obama’s stimulus package to education.






Of course, jacking up the remuneration of our school level chiefs when we are starting many non-HQT teachers on substitute teacher’s rate is not where I would start, but then, what do I know? This is why, Lucy and Alfred, Rita and Sam, George and Rose, Ellen and Glen, the ACT Three conversations need to begin but pronto!



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲86 ▼77
Palau	Cloudy	▲86 ▼78
Yap	Showers	▲87 ▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲87 ▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲87 ▼75
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲88 ▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼79

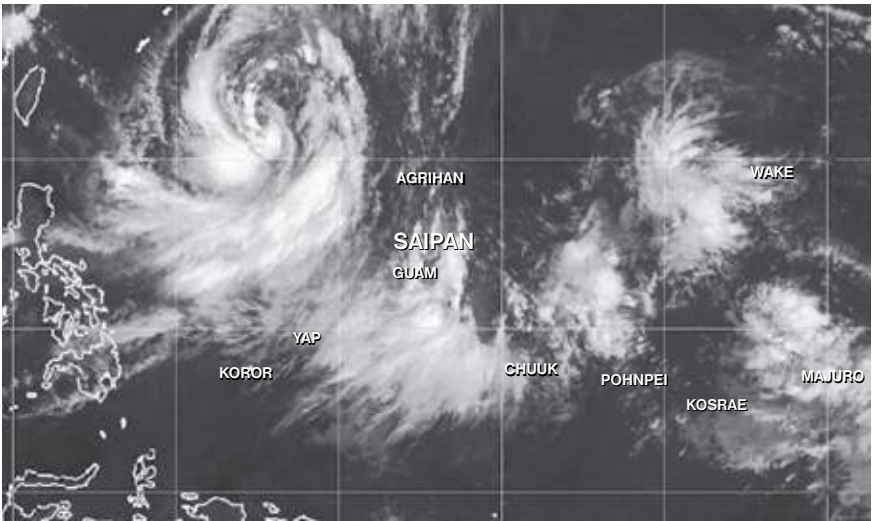
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲59 ▼47
Beijing	Cloudy	▲90 ▼73
Hong Kong	Rain	▲93 ▼82
Honolulu	Showers	▲85 ▼77
London	Showers	▲75 ▼59
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲86 ▼64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲60 ▼51
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲90 ▼80
New York	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼69
Osaka	Showers	▲88 ▼75
Paris	Cloudy	▲84 ▼70
Pusan	Showers	▲81 ▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲87 ▼65
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲84 ▼53
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲72 ▼58
Seoul	Showers	▲81 ▼75
Tokyo	Showers	▲83 ▼77
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲94 ▼72

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:27 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
6:14 AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:42 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:39 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2009**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The monsoon trough extends eastward from Tropical Storm Goni in the South China Sea through the Luzon Strait to Tropical Storm Morakot centered near 22N136E southeastward across the Marianas to a circulation northwest of Chuuk near 11N149E then eastward across Micronesia to another circulation in the Marshalls near 9N170E. Bands of numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with Morakot arc around its center from 18N130E to 16N135E to 20N140E and from 25N132E to 20N134E to 22N137E. Convergent winds in the circulation northeast of Chuuk are generating scattered showers and few thunderstorms south of the Marianas from 8N to 13N between 142E and 149E and northwest of Pohnpei within 100 miles of a line from 14N153E to 9N158E. Wind convergence associated with the disturbance east of Kwajalein is producing scattered showers and few thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands from 6N to 11N between 166E and 173E. An upper level low centered west of Wake Island near 19N154E is triggering scattered showers and few thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line from 20N160E to 15N163E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:13 PM	5:04 AM
Thursday	6:51 PM	5:54 AM
Friday	7:28 PM	6:42 AM
Saturday	8:03 PM	7:30 AM
Sunday	8:38 PM	8:17 AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

### PICTURES

- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 21, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b> C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am 1, 3, 4, 6	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7
<b>SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)</b> NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	<b>NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN</b> NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am 1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA</b> OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>MANILA-SAIPAN</b> OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ704/605 11:50pm 2:30pm+1 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123*	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125*	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## 'Clunker' sales nearing quarter-million; what now?

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House warned Monday that the "cash for clunkers" program, already zooming toward a quarter-million trade-ins with the initial \$1 billion in rebates, could sputter to a stop by Friday unless the Senate quickly approves \$2 billion more.

While Republican lawmakers complained about another government giveaway, the Obama administration pointed to environmental gains made during the first week of the program that gives rebates of as much as \$4,500 to motorists who trade in gas guzzlers for more fuel-efficient vehicles. The White House also highlighted recovery news from Ford Motor Co., which reported its first U.S. sales increase in nearly two years.

That won over some Democrats who had grumbled the program wasn't wringing out enough fuel efficiency. They complained that smaller rebates of \$3,500 were going to people buying new cars that get as little as 4 more miles per gallon than



A person passes a car in a dumpster placed in front of an auto dealership in Philadelphia as a promotion for the "cash for clunker" federal incentive program, Monday, Aug. 3, 2009.

the gas-guzzling clunkers they traded in.

But many Republicans remained skeptical, and Democratic leaders were uncertain

they could get a favorable vote on a House-passed \$2 billion extension by week's end, when the Senate begins a four-week recess.

## AP ENTERPRISE: Biggest tax revenue drop since 1932

WASHINGTON (AP)—The recession is starving the government of tax revenue, just as the president and Congress are piling a major expansion of health care and other programs on the nation's plate and struggling to find money to pay the tab.

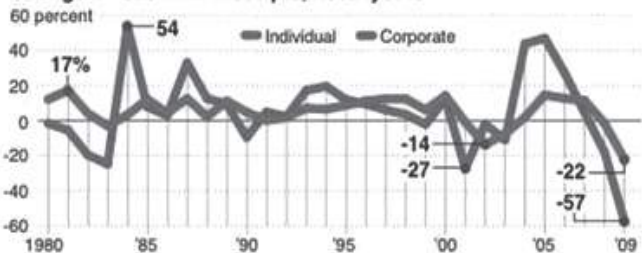
The numbers could hardly be more stark: Tax receipts are on pace to drop 18 percent this year, the biggest single-year decline since the Great Depression, while the federal deficit balloons to a record \$1.8 trillion.

Other figures in an Associated Press analysis underscore the recession's impact: Individual income tax receipts are down 22 percent from a year ago. Corporate income taxes are down 57 percent. Social Security tax re-

### Federal tax revenues take major hit

Tax receipts, driven by big drops in individual income and corporate taxes, are on pace to post their biggest single-year decline since the Great Depression.

Change in federal tax receipts, fiscal years



NOTE: Data from 2009 is through June; the fiscal year ends in September.

SOURCES: Office of Management and Budget; Treasury Department

Graphic shows change in federal tax receipts from 1980 to 2009.

ceipts could drop for only the second time since 1940, and Medicare taxes are on pace to drop for only the third time ever.

The last time the government's revenues were this bleak, the year was 1932 in the midst of the Depression.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### US manufacturing contraction slowest since August

NEW YORK (AP)—U.S. manufacturing activity should grow next month for the first time since January 2008 as industrial companies work to restock customers' bare shelves, a trade group said Monday. The Institute for Supply Management's better-than-expected report, improving manufacturing data overseas and a surprise jump in U.S. construction spending in June, helped push stock markets higher. Following last week's report that the U.S. economy shrank less than expected in the second quarter, many economists believe the longest recession since World War II may be over, though any recovery will be subdued. The ISM, a trade group of purchasing executives, said its index measuring U.S. manufacturing activity in July showed the slowest pace of decline since last

August. The 48.9 reading was up from 44.8 in June. Production and new orders jumped to their highest level in two years, while new export orders grew after shrinking for nine months.

#### GM buyout offers falls short of goal, layoffs loom

DETROIT (AP)—About 6,000 General Motors Co. blue-collar workers have taken the latest round of early retirement and buyout offers, but it fell short of the company's goal, meaning more layoffs are likely. GM has about 54,000 factory workers and wants to end the year with 40,500, a cut of about 13,500. Monday's report means that about 7,500 too few workers took the offers, setting the stage for more layoffs. The automaker announced in June and July that it would close 15 U.S. factories employing about 22,000 workers

by end of 2012.

#### BofA pays \$33M federal fine over Merrill bonuses

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bank of America Corp. has agreed to pay a \$33 million penalty to settle government charges that it misled investors about Merrill Lynch's plans to pay bonuses to its executives, regulators said Monday. In seeking approval to buy Merrill, Bank of America told investors that Merrill would not pay year-end bonuses without Bank of America's consent. But the Securities and Exchange Commission said Bank of America had authorized New York-based Merrill to pay up to \$5.8 billion in bonuses. That rendered a statement Bank of America mailed to 283,000 shareholders of both companies about the Merrill deal "materially false and misleading," the SEC said in a statement.

# Nation

## Postal Service considers closings, consolidation

WASHINGTON (AP)—A pillar of U.S. communities since the nation's founding, the post office is facing the prospect of closings or consolidation of services at hundreds of locations amid a sharp decline in business due to e-mail.

The Postal Service may register a loss of nearly \$7 billion this fiscal year in spite of a 2-cent increase in the price of stamps in May, cuts in staff and removal of collection boxes.

Post officials sent a list of nearly 700 potential candidates for closing or consolidation to the independent Postal Regulatory Commission for review.

More may be added, but the current list of candidates can be viewed at the commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>

Some of the offices could be closed while others could have some of their functions consolidated with other offices. For example, in some cases preparing mail for delivery may be shifted from Office A to nearby Office B, but the first office might still offer such services as selling stamps and mailing parcels and letters. In other cases one of the offices might be closed.

Postal Vice President Jordan Small told a congressional subcommittee that local

managers will study activities of approximately 3,200 stations and branches across the country and consider factors such as customer access, service standards, cost savings, impact on employees, environmental impact, real estate values and long-term Postal Service needs.

No changes are expected before the end of the current fiscal year on Sept. 30. There are 32,741 post offices.

"We anticipate that out of these 3,200 stations and branches, under 1,000 offices could be considered as viable candidates to study further," Small said.

## Different US locations weighed for Gitmo trials

WASHINGTON (AP)—Starting at a January deadline, the Obama administration is debating between two dramatically different schemes for putting Guantanamo Bay detainees on trial: big-city courtrooms in the nation's capital, New York and Virginia—or a one-of-a-kind superjail in the Midwest.

And the participants, working in tense but amicable secret meetings, know the final and politically volatile decision about where to try detainees will be made by President Barack Obama, who set the deadline for closing the prison

on the military base in Cuba to meet a campaign promise.

Dozens of Guantanamo Bay detainee cases have been referred to federal prosecutors for possible criminal trials in those Eastern Seaboard locations, officials told The Associated Press on Monday, as the Justice Department, Pentagon and national security officials also weigh whether to hold virtually all Guantanamo-related civilian and military trials at a Midwestern prison in Michigan or Kansas.

The administration could decide that rather than bring the detainees to trial in a number of

cities, it will instead bring prosecutors and judges with terrorism experience to one site in the Midwest for trial, which would pose other serious logistical hurdles. Or they could settle on a combination of the plans.

Obama administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss internal deliberations, said Attorney General Eric Holder met privately last week with the chief federal prosecutors in four East Coast districts to discuss the preparations for possible indictments and trials.

## Detained in Iran: Hiked in wrong place, wrong time

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—Shane Bauer, a freelance writer with a passion for travel and the Middle East, planned to spend a week covering the Kurdish elections in Iraq when he checked with his employer last week.

In an e-mail, Bauer told Pacific News Service Executive Director Sandy Close that he wanted to "feel out the situation there and get some ideas for deeper stories."

"Kurdistan is the big story in Iraq now," Bauer wrote in the e-mail provided to The Associated Press. "I'm off to Kurdistan ..."

Within a few days, Bauer went missing—one of three Americans detained by Iranian authorities.

The status of the three remained unknown Monday despite efforts by Swiss diplomats to obtain details from the Iranian Foreign Minister. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham

Clinton also appealed to Iran for information.

The three have been identified by friends and relatives as Shane Bauer, Sarah Shourd and Joshua Fattal. A fourth member of the group, Shon Meckfessel, was to have gone on the hike but did not because he felt sick.

Sandy Close, executive director of San Francisco-based Pacific News Service, said Bauer was just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Terror as turbulence hurts 26 on Rio-Houston plane

MIAMI (AP)—Some passengers were snoozing while others snacked when the first turbulence rattled Continental Flight 128 over the Atlantic. Suddenly, the jetliner began to plunge and shake violently, hurling passengers over seatbacks and slamming them against luggage bins. The Boeing 767 made an emergency landing in Miami early Monday so at least 26 injured, four seriously, could receive medical help. But the sudden turbulence that rocked the overnight flight from Rio de Janeiro was an all-too-real reminder of an Air France flight—also traveling from Rio—that crashed into the mid-Atlantic in June during thunderstorms, killing all 228 people on board.

#### Minn. mother accused of starving disabled daughter

SANDSTONE, Minn. (AP)—A Minnesota woman has been charged with starving to death her developmentally disabled 10-year-old daughter, who used a feeding tube to gain nourishment. In a complaint signed by a judge on Friday, Ludusky Sue Hotchkiss, 29, of Sandstone, was charged in Pine County District Court with second-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in the death of her daughter, Lakesha Victor. Authorities say a sibling found Lakesha dead on Aug. 20, 2006, at the family's home in nearby Hinckley, about 80 miles north of Minneapolis. It was not clear from the complaint why it took three years to file charges,

and the county prosecutor's office did not return an after-hours phone message Monday.

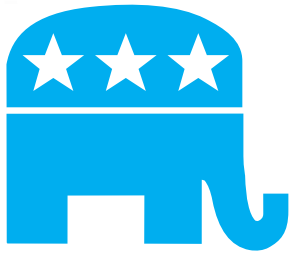
#### Mass. chemical leak sends 100-plus to hospitals

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (AP)—Noxious fumes at a trash disposal facility sent 119 people to hospitals Monday, including two who were listed in critical condition. Firefighters responded to ABC Disposal Service Inc. in New Bedford just after 10 a.m. after a report that something brought to the facility was making people sick, fire Chief Paul Leger said. As many as 10 people lost consciousness after breathing in the fumes, authorities said. The victims were decontaminated by a hazardous materials team on site before being taken to hospitals.



# REPUBLICAN PARTY OF 2009 GOP C

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Governor



**Donald Pangelinan Flores**  
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Reyes**  
(Incumbent - Saipan)



**Ralph Deleon Guerrero  
Torres**  
(Saipan)



**Jude Untalan  
Hofschneider**  
(Incumbent - Tinian)



**Frank Quichocho  
Cruz**  
(Tinian)



**Joseph Pinaula  
Deleon Guerrero**  
(Precinct 1-Incumbent)



**Ramon Angailen  
Tebuteb**  
(Precinct 3-Incumbent)



**Eric Benavente  
Atalig**  
(Precinct 2)



**Manuel  
Ten**  
(Precinct 4)

## KICK-OFF RALLY

**Saturday, August 8, 2009  
Civic Center Basketball Court**

## ISLAND-WIDE CONVOY

**Meeting Place at Precincts 1-5  
Starting Points**

**Starts at 9:00 a.m. drive to Civic Center  
Waving 10:00 a.m.**

**Kick-off Rally 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

*Please Join Us!*



# THE NMI ASSOCIATION CANDIDATES

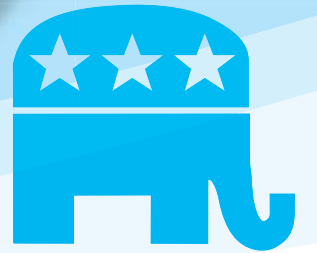


**Arnold Indalecio Palacios**  
Lt. Governor



**Ramon Muna Dela Cruz**  
(Mayor-Tinian)

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**Diego Tenorio Benavente**  
(Precinct 1-Incumbent)



**Janet Ulloa Maratita**  
(Precinct 1)



**Eliceo "Eli" Diaz Cabrera**  
(Precinct 1)



**Antonio "Tony" Pangelinan Sablan**  
(Precinct 1)



**Joseph Mafnas Palacios**  
(Precinct 1)



**Ray Naraja Yumul**  
(Precinct 3-Incumbent)



**Frank Santos Dela Cruz**  
(Precinct 3-Incumbent)



**Danny Iwashita Aquino, Jr.**  
(Precinct 3)



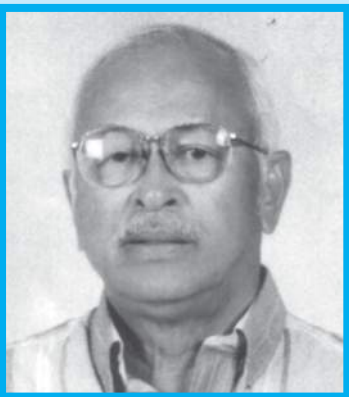
**Ramon Sablan Salas**  
(Precinct 3)



**Jesus Manibusan Castro**  
(Precinct 3)



**I Agulto**  
(Precinct 2)



**Frank Deleon Guerrero Camacho**  
(Precinct 4)



**Juan Reyes Babauta**  
(Precinct 4)



**Rosemond Blanco Santos**  
(Precinct 5-Incumbent)



**Jose Sablan Demapan**  
(Precinct 5)



**Trenton Brian Conner**  
(Precinct 6-Tinian)



# Asia

## Huge crowds honor Aquino cortege in Manila



Tens of thousands of supporters gather at the funeral motorcade for the former Philippine President Corason Aquino as it inches its way along Manila's financial district of Makati city on the way to the Manila Cathedral Monday Aug. 3, 2009 in Manila, Philippines.

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Huge crowds reminiscent of the 1986 “people power” demonstration took to Manila's streets Monday to honor the passing of former President Corason Aquino, who captured the hearts of Filipinos by ousting a brutal dictator and keeping democracy alive in the Philippines.

The flag-draped coffin of Aquino, who died Saturday after a yearlong battle with co-

lon cancer, was paraded atop a flatbed truck along the streets where the hundreds of thousands of protesters she inspired had faced down army tanks 23 years ago and toppled Ferdinand Marcos.

Tens of thousands of mourners left their offices, schools and homes and converged on streets and overpasses, clutching yellow balloons, waving yellow ribbons and showering

yellow confetti from high-rises on to Aquino's casket. Yellow was her signature color and the symbol of the nonviolent mass movement that ushered in an era of democracy after 20 years of authoritarian rule.

Manila's notorious traffic came to a standstill as the cortege inched on its five-hour procession through the city, including Ayala Avenue, where Aquino led many pro-democracy marches. Motorists rolled down windows and put out their hands to flash Aquino's trademark “L” sign for “laban,” or “fight” in Filipino, the key slogan of the anti-Marcos campaign.

“I really just appreciate the love,” said daughter Kris Aquino of Monday's gathering. “Everybody's saying thank you to us for sharing my mom.”

At a time when some fear for the future of Philippine democracy, or at least are skeptical about the intentions of its politicians, Monday's gathering transcended class and wealth, underscoring the groundswell of public feeling that propelled the “people power” uprising of 1986.

## Plague kills 3rd man in sealed-off Chinese town

**BEIJING (AP)**—Medical staff raced to disinfect a sealed-off town in northwestern China on Tuesday after a third person died within four days in a pneumonic plague outbreak in the farming community of 10,000, local authorities said.

Police set up checkpoints around Ziketan in Qinghai province after the outbreak was first detected last Thursday. The lung infection is highly contagious and can kill a human in 24 hours if left untreated.

Medical staff are disinfecting the area and killing rats, insects

and fleas that can be carriers for the bacteria, a notice on the provincial health department Web site said. Authorities are keeping close track of people who came into contact with those infected.

Authorities urged anyone who had visited the town since mid-July and has developed a cough or fever to seek hospital treatment. Pneumonic plague is spread through the air and can be passed from person to person through coughing.

The latest victim was a 64-year-old man named Danzhi, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

He was a neighbor of a 32-year-old herdsman in Ziketan and a 37-year-old man who died earlier. A further nine people—mainly relatives of the herdsman—are infected and in a hospital, according to the local health bureau.

Of those, one is in an extremely serious condition and one other has developed symptoms of coughing and chest pain, but the rest are in stable condition and there have been no reports of new infections, Xinhua and the health department said.

position political party, the National League for Democracy. The court is due to reach a verdict next week. The 64-year old Nobel Peace laureate—who is facing five years in prison for giving temporary shelter to an American man who swam to her house uninvited in early May - declared that the court's decision is already “painfully obvious.”

## 5 rockets hit Afghan capital, 1 near US Embassy

**KABUL (AP)**—At least five rockets slammed into Kabul at daybreak Tuesday, one of them falling near the U.S. Embassy in a rare attack on the Afghan capital fewer than three weeks before presidential elections, police and residents said. The explosions, heard by AP reporters, occurred to the east of the city, toward the international airport and near several residential areas. The impact of one of the rockets could be seen about 200 yards (meters) from the U.S. Embassy on a main road in central Kabul. It hit the house of a senior Interior Ministry official but caused no casualties, security officers said. At the scene, Maj. Ghulam Rasul of the Afghan national army said he believed the rockets were of the long-range BMI type, which can be fired from portable rocket launchers positioned on the ground several miles from their target. “The capital is closely guarded. They had to fire from far away,” Rasul said.

# World

## Shiite group agrees to renounce violence in Iraq

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—An extremist Shiite group believed responsible for the killing of five American soldiers in a bold raid south of Baghdad and the kidnapping of five British men has agreed to renounce violence, a government adviser said Monday.

The deal was reached during a weekend meeting between Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and representatives of Asaib Ahl al-Haq, or League of the Righteous, a group the U.S. alleges is backed by Iran and refuses to adhere to a militia cease-fire.

The group promised to lay

down its weapons and join the political process, according to government aide Sami al-Askari, who was at the meeting. In return, al-Maliki promised to seek the release of the detainees in U.S. custody, al-Askari said.

The deal comes as the Shiite-led Iraqi government moves increasingly to assert its sovereignty and solidify its power base ahead of national elections scheduled for January. The U.S. military also has seen its influence wane as it begins to pull back its troops with plans for a full withdrawal by the end of 2011.

The transformation of the remaining Shiite militant groups into political organizations would be a significant development for Iraq as it prepares for the end of the U.S. military role. It also could boost Tehran's leverage in the neighboring country, although Iran's government denies any links to Shiite extremists in Iraq.

Iraqi politicians with links to the Asaib al-Haq have said the group wants to participate in next year's parliamentary vote, either by fielding its own ticket or backing candidates from other Shiite parties.

## Iran president confirmed but sealed without a kiss

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)**—Iran's supreme leader bestowed his formal endorsement on Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's second term as president on Monday but withheld a powerful symbolic gesture—the kisses and close embrace that portrayed their bond four years ago.

The awkward and halting moment came when Ahmadinejad leaned forward to kiss Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. But the supreme leader raised his left hand and momentarily stopped Ahmadinejad, who spoke a few words and then kissed

meanwhile, has been rattled for the first time by protesters questioning the near limitless power of the theocracy he controls.

Both now are battered and bound together against the pro-reform backlash. But it's still a potentially testy relationship.

Khamenei appeared to signal he is willing to stand by Ahmadinejad—as he has since the election—but that the supercharged political climate requires new sensitivities to public opinion.

Ahmadinejad also crossed a political line last month by resisting Khamenei's calls to dismiss a top aide—whom Ahmadinejad eventually dumped.

After Ahmadinejad's surprise election in 2005, Khamenei allowed him to kiss his hand in a show of profound loyalty. Then Khamenei drew him close and kissed him on both cheeks with a benevolent smile. This time, Ahmadinejad moved toward Khamenei but was offered only the chance to kiss the leader's robe—a gesture of respect but far more restrained than four years ago.



Ahmadinejad

## Wife: Iran reform politician's confession forced

**BEIRUT (AP)**—The wife of a prominent pro-reform Iranian politician said Monday her husband was forced into confessing he helped fuel post-election riots as part of a plot to topple the government and said he appeared drugged days before the trial.

The contention by Fahimeh Mousavinejad came as opposition groups claimed the government's prosecution of about 100 activists for leading protests of the disputed election results was a propaganda show.

Mousavinejad's husband, former Vice President Mohammad Abtahi, looked gaunt and disheveled when he confessed in a televised broadcast during the opening session of the mass trial on Saturday.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### NKorea: Ex-President Bill Clinton in Pyongyang

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—Former U.S. President Bill Clinton made a surprise trip to North Korea on Tuesday amid an international standoff over the country's nuclear program and concerns about two U.S. reporters imprisoned in Pyongyang since March. Clinton landed in Pyongyang in an unmarked jet Tuesday and was greeted at the airport by North Korean officials, including chief nuclear negotiator Kim Kye Gwan and vice parliamentary speaker Yang Hyong Sop, footage from APTN Pyongyang showed. He smiled and bowed as a young girl presented him with flowers. The unannounced visit comes amid heightened tensions over North Korea's string of nuclear and missile tests in defiance of the U.N. Security Council and calls from Washington for amnesty for the two jailed reporters.

### Suu Kyi says her trial tests Myanmar legal system

**YANGON, Myanmar (AP)**—Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi has told the court trying her that her trial on charges she violated her house arrest is a test of the military-run country's legal system. Suu Kyi's full testimony in the closed-door trial was released for the first time by her op-

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Official: Tribesmen kill 185 in Sudan village

**CAIRO (AP)**—Armed tribesmen attacked a fishing village in southeast Sudan where hundreds of displaced people were camped near a river, leaving at least 185 people, most of them women and children, dead in the worst violence in three months, a southern Sudan official said Monday. A flare-up of tribal clashes in south Sudan over cattle and territory has left more 1,000 people killed so far this year. The violence is separate from the six-year-old conflict between rebels and government forces in Darfur, the vast western region of Sudan. U.N. and local officials expressed concern that the violence in the south, which has increasingly targeted women and children, could hamper preparation for national and presidential elections scheduled for April 2010.

### Somali pirates release German ship

**BERLIN (AP)**—Somali pirates released a German freighter after a ransom was paid Monday, nearly four months after the ship was seized in the Indian Ocean, a European Union naval spokesman said. British Royal Navy Cmdr. John

Harbour said the 20,000-tonne Hansa Stavanger, taken 400 miles off the southern Somali port of Kismayu on April 4, was released several hours after the payment was made. “She put to sea on her own steam and she is continuing out to sea under the protection of European naval force units,” he said. German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said in a statement it was “with great relief” that learned of the ship's release.

### Niger president seeks more power in referendum

**NIAMEY, Niger (AP)**—His opponents are calling it a “slow-motion coup.” Fighting to stay in power past the two-term limit, the leader of this uranium-rich desert nation has reversed promises to step down in December. Over the space of several months he has imposed rule by decree and dismantled parliament and the constitutional court, which opposed his plan and represented the last real checks on his rule. On Tuesday, a referendum could remove the last obstacle for President Mamadou Tandja—the constitution—replacing it with a new one that would enable him to remain with greatly boosted powers and grant him the right to rule a three-year transition with no election.



# Campus Life

## Gearing up for college, students clamp down on spending

By JONATHAN STARKEY  
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—Getting that college tuition and housing bill under control is only the first step. Then comes the comforter and refrigerator and textbooks and—well, the College Board has a list of 118 to-buy items on its off-to-college checklist.

And don't forget the pizza money.

The bill to outfit a freshman can run to thousands of dollars if you're not careful, financial advisers say. As recession losses have whittled down college funds and part-time jobs have become more elusive, families are finding creative ways to stretch each dollar.

In many ways, summer for Sharon Okolicsanyi and daughter Helena has been defined by college-prep bargain-hunting.

Okolicsanyi, of Manassas, Va., has scoured the Web for deals on a laptop for Helena, 18, who will be a freshman at suburban George Mason University. They finally found a bargain: \$499, marked down from \$700. A security and software upgrade cost \$100, and a printer cost \$30, marked down from \$70.

"I don't know much about computers," said Okolicsanyi, a teacher and single mother. "I had to keep looking and looking. I had to find the best deal."

On a recent trip, the Okolic-



In this Aug. 25, 2008 file photo, North Idaho College student Ashley Kelley shops for textbooks at the community college's bookstore in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

sanyis picked up \$68 worth of supplies, including spiral notebooks, pencils, dividers, pens and packs of paper. They cut down the cost of an \$80 "11-piece dorm-in-a-bag set" with a 20 percent coupon.

On top of her loans, Okolicsanyi borrowed \$500 to help cover expenses. For pocket money, Helena plans to work part time through the federal work-study program and may rely on Mom.

She has sought out a financial adviser on campus and is awaiting word on a scholarship.

"On the one hand, you want so much stuff," Helena said. "On the other, you don't want to pay for it."

Financial planner Christine Parker, president of Parker Financial in suburban La Plata, Md., advises mindful preparation.

Parker used the checklist drawn up by the College Board, best

known for its SAT and other tests, to estimate the cost of moving into a dorm. By her count, there are paper towels for \$6.99, notebooks for \$19.99, audio equipment for \$64.64 and a computer-printer combo for \$897. Toiletries add up to \$245.77. Buying all 118 items on the list would cost \$4,250.35, enough to "break the back of most American families," she wrote in an e-mail.

Parker suggests making a

shopping list to avoid emotional purchases. Rather than buying new, take as much as possible from home. And "separate wants from needs," Parker said.

She suggests that parents and students sit down and draw up a budget. How much will the student need each week to cover personal hygiene items, laundry, the phone bill, and a movie or food off campus?

"How much are you going

to allow them? Or how are you going to help them understand what money they are going to spend?" Parker said. Some parents provide monthly allowances typically ranging from \$100 to \$500, she added. In 2008-2009, personal expenses averaged \$1,906 nationally for a student living on campus at a four-year private school, according to the College Board.

Too often, students leave home with unrealistic ideas about spending and accrue giant credit card balances, Parker said. According to a study issued this year by student lender Sallie Mae, college freshmen carried a median credit card balance of \$939, compared with \$373 in 2004. The average for graduating seniors is more than \$4,100.

"Most financial literacy for kids comes from their parents," Parker said. "You have to be actively involved. It's better if we're teaching them, than letting the credit card companies teach them."

Parents should remember that the federal stimulus plan has broadened options for covering college costs, Parker said. Now students can use 529 college savings plans to buy computers and pay for Internet service, for example. An expansion of one credit allows low- and middle-income families to offset up to \$2,500 spent on qualified education-related costs, such as tuition, room and board, and books.

## Reno academy caters to really smart kids

By SANDRA CHEREB  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**RENO, Nevada (AP)**—Back home in Boise, Rachel was too bright for her own good. She was isolated from girls her own age who only wanted to talk about boys and shopping, and cut off from her teachers who seemed to regard her as an annoying brat.

Rachel's mother Jae Ellison wondered if her daughter, with so much brain power, would even graduate high school.

Today 16-year-old Rachel is headed to MIT after graduating from the Davidson Academy, a free public high school on the University of Nevada, Reno campus that caters to the profoundly gifted—those who might be considered geniuses.

that the brightest students, too, are being denied the opportunity to realize their potential.

"Schools don't handle odd ball kids very well," said Jane Clarenbach with the Washington, D.C.-based National Association for Gifted Children. "The more highly gifted you are, the bigger problem you present to your school district."

The Davidson Academy and its not-for-profit umbrella organization, the Davidson Institute, were founded by education software developers Bob and Jan Davidson.

Their former company, Davidson & Associates, was known for the popular Math Blaster and Reading Blaster software series of the early 1980s. They co-authored the book, "Genius Denied: How

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The homepage of the Davidson Academy Web site.

the academy. It opened in 2006 with 39 students. When classes begin this fall about 100 are expected at the school, which focuses on the individual needs of students who are grouped by ability level rather than age.

More than a dozen specialty high schools for gifted students operate around the country, and many colleges offer classes for bright young students, Clarenbach said. There is no set definition for

what makes a student gifted, or highly gifted, or profoundly gifted, let alone statistics on how many there are, she said.

To be accepted at Davidson, students must score in the top 99.9 percentile on IQ tests or

at the top of their age groups on aptitude tests.

Teaching young wizards and keeping them engaged in learning is not as easy as it sounds, experts say. Years ahead intellectually of the students their own age, it can be challenging to stoke their academic fire while harboring fragile adolescence from emotional meltdown.

"At some point it does become a problem because they have less in common with their age peers and more with their academic peers," Clarenbach said.

It was that dilemma that brought the Ellison family to Reno, where Rachel's brother, David, also attends the academy.

In Boise, Rachel attended six different schools, sometimes three in one day, to find classes that challenged her. Hanging out at the mall was not her idea of fun. In her spare time, Rachel is writing a seven-volume novel.

Being around intellectual equals at Davidson, she said, exposed her to a social network she lacked. The academics, she said, may have been her main reason for coming to Davidson, "but my favorite part has definitely been the social atmosphere."

### ON THE NET

Davidson Academy: <http://www.davidsonacademy.unr.edu/>

With so much attention on the federal No Child Left Behind Act, advocates for exceptionally smart kids often complain

to Stop Wasting Our Brightest Young Minds."

The Davidsons donated more than \$10 million toward



# Life & Style

By SUSAN SPANO  
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**ROME**—I spend a lot of time looking for a second home in Europe. You know—the sort of place to spend lazy weekends and my golden years. A friend has a country house in Provence, and another escapes to a beautiful little apartment overlooking the Cote d’Azur.

I have narrowed it down to two properties. Neither is for sale, but that could change if the market stays soft.

I didn’t even need a real estate agent to tour them. Anyone can, because Villa Farnese at Caprarola, about 35 miles northwest of Rome, and Vaux le Vicomte, 35 miles southeast of Paris, are open to the public.

It’s an easy drive from the Eternal City to Villa Farnese, which sits on a volcanic rock overlooking the little town of Caprarola. When I take friends there, I like to start at a gelateria in the piazza below because it’s a five-minute climb up sloping stone terraces to the distinguished double staircase at the entrance.

Villa Farnese is a state-owned museum but far enough off the beaten path to attract relatively few sightseers compared with the more famous Villa d’Este in Tivoli. Visitors are admitted in groups led by docents who usher them around without describing the villa’s features; there’s little in the way

## Decisions, decisions: French chateau or Italian villa?

his head examined if he doesn’t spend the occasional weekend there.

With a little more furniture, I easily could move into the Villa Farnese. But I can’t decide between it and Vaux le Vicomte, which is like having to choose between the Italian Renaissance and the grand French style of Louis XIV.

Like Caprarola, Vaux is appreciated chiefly by the cognoscenti who have seen Versailles, southwest of Paris, and nearby Fontainebleau. It is smaller than the two great royal palaces but in many ways more perfect, reached by a long, graceful “allee” of plane trees that is, in itself, a registered historic monument.

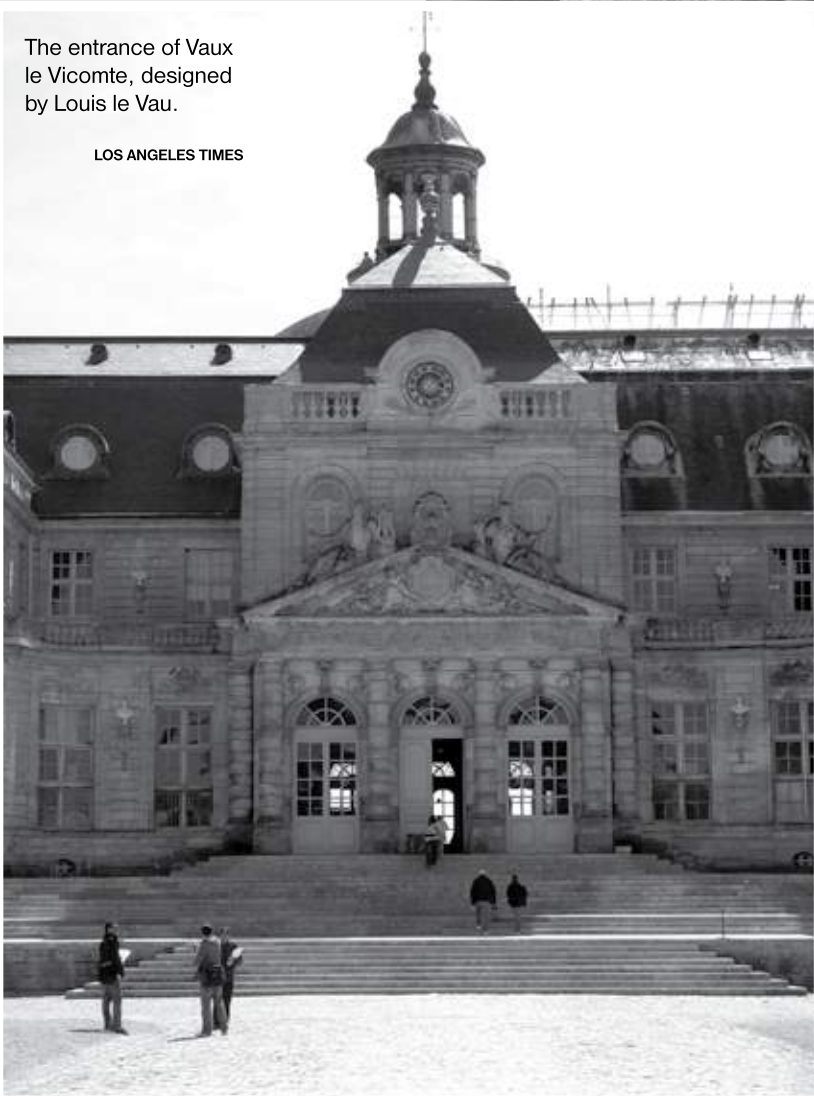
The chateau, built by French finance minister Nicholas Fouquet, so astonished Louis XIV when he saw it in 1661 that the king hired the Vaux team—artist Charles le Brun, architect Louis le Vau and landscape designer Andre le Notre—to redesign his palace at Versailles.



LOS ANGELES TIMES  
Locator map details Europe.

The entrance of Vaux le Vicomte, designed by Louis le Vau.

LOS ANGELES TIMES



of printed information in English; and some tours don’t include the garden on the hill behind the villa with its exquisite fountains and summer house, or casino. The lack of explanation in English frustrates some people.

It’s important to know a little background. Villa Farnese, for instance, was built in the second half of the 16th century—the denouement of the Italian High Renaissance—by Cardinal Alessandro Farnese, a grandson of Pope Paul III, who granted the young man lucrative bishoprics all over France and Italy. At the time

it was common for popes to share the wealth of the throne of St. Peter’s with trusted family members, especially their nephews, or “nipoti”—a practice that gave us the word “nepotism.”

A famous portrait by Titian of Pope Paul III and grandsons Alessandro and Ottavio hangs in the Capodimonte Museum in Naples. It shows the three at the height of their glory in 1546, three years before Paul III died, a new pope was elected, power passed from the Farnese family and Alessandro decided to retire to the country.

An eminently cultivated man, Alessandro hired some of the best artists of the age to modernize the villa, including architect Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola, a former assistant to Michelangelo. Vignola’s plan, still esteemed by architectural historians, retained the building’s pentagonal shape but gave it a circular courtyard inside surrounded by a columned loggia and five spiral staircases leading to miraculously stuccoed and frescoed galleries on the second floor.

My favorites upstairs are the Mapamondo Gallery, showing the four continents known in the 16th century (Europe, Asia, Africa and a somewhat misshapen America), and the Hall of the Feats of the Farnese with murals like a glorified family album. The frescoes, illustrating important historical events in which Farneses figured, were painted with great delicacy, fascinating detail and still-luminous color. A bridge over the moat at the back of the villa yields to the walled, lower garden, landscaped in the Italian style with clipped boxwood instead of flowers.

If you’re lucky enough to get on a tour that includes the upper garden, the docent will open a gate that leads

The chateau Le Vau designed for Fouquet sits in perfect symmetry on a terraced platform fronted by a moat. All of that was de rigueur at the time, but the architect added a high Italian-style rotunda housing an oval salon instead of a more traditional square gallery.

The grand salon looks over Le Notre’s magnificent garden, sweeping south across basins with fountains, gravel walkways and long parterres of

LOS ANGELES TIMES  
The plane tree allee at Vaux le Vicomte is a registered historic monument in itself.



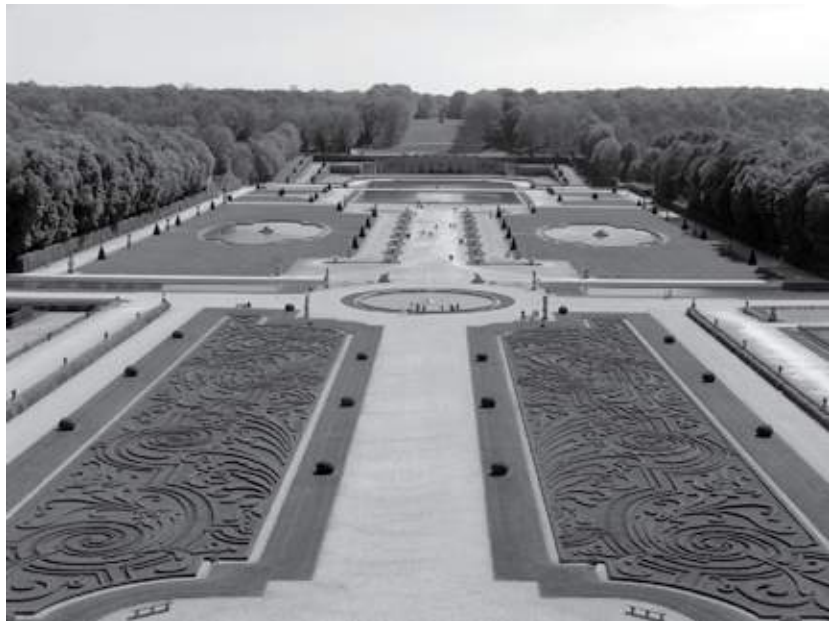
LOS ANGELES TIMES  
Vaux le Vicomte’s stables and outbuildings, as seen from the recently opened tower at the 17th century chateau, about 35 miles southeast of Paris.

up a steep path to a series of terraces in the woods. Each level has its own ingenious system of fountains, including one embedded in a balustrade decorated with sculpted dolphins.

The charming casino, a Villa Farnese in miniature, perches at the apex. It’s one of the official residences of the president of the Italian Republic, who ought to have

boxwood clipped into arabesques that make it look like a Turkish carpet. In laying out the garden, Le Notre manipulated perspective so that a sunken canal at the far end of the greensward cannot be seen from the chateau. But for visitors who walk the full length of the garden it comes as a delightful surprise.





LOS ANGELES TIMES

The classic French garden, one of the first of its kind, was designed by Andre le Notre.

While the garden took shape, Le Brun, who recently had traveled in Italy, painted the muses on the ceiling of Fouquet's private quarters in a frothy French 17th-century version of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. He also worked up elaborate plans for the grand salon's decor, but as fate would have it, they were never fully executed.

Behind every great house in Europe there is generally the story of a man. At Vaux it was Fouquet, a discerning patron of the arts and friend to writers including Moliere, a brilliant politician to whom almost everyone in Paris owed favors, vastly wealthy by the time the king named him superintendent of finance. But in the course of his meteoric career, he also made dangerous enemies, such as Jean-Baptiste Colbert, who whispered stories of Fouquet's fiscal chicanery in young Louis XIV's ear.

Moliere could not have envisioned a more dramatic fall from grace than that of Fouquet, who lavishly entertained the king at Vaux in the summer of 1661, unaware that Louis suspected him of embezzling from the state.

Less than a month later, Fouquet was arrested by Capt. Charles de Batz

Castelmore, the model for Alexandre Dumas' Comte d'Artagnan in "The Three Musketeers."

The verdict of the long trial staged by Colbert was a foregone conclusion. Fouquet spent the rest of his life in prison, rumored to have been the subject of another Dumas novel, "The Man in the Iron Mask." Meanwhile, Louis cleaned out Vaux, giving Fouquet's prized possessions a new home at Versailles.

#### TRAVEL BOX

Vaux le Vicomte is near the town of Melun, which is located about 35 miles southeast of Paris, [www.vaux-le-vicomte.com](http://www.vaux-le-vicomte.com).

Villa Farnese is in the town of Caprarola northwest of Rome, [www.caprarola.com](http://www.caprarola.com).

The paintings by Poussin and Gobelin tapestries that visitors see at Vaux are copies, part of restorations commissioned by Alfred Sommier, who bought Vaux in 1875. His great-grandson Patrice de Vogue continues the effort to bring the estate back to life, refurbishing the garden, opening the tower to visitors, staging Easter egg hunts, Moliere-style entertainments and chocolate soirees.

Racks of 17th-century costumes hang near the entrance, which is why you still see little Fouquets on the grounds.

On my most recent trip to Vaux in May, I stood on the terrace overlooking the garden trying to decide whether to buy the chateau or the villa. Both will need new bathrooms, but it doesn't matter. Money is really no object.



LOS ANGELES TIMES

A salon, restored to its original finery. Louis XIV imprisoned owner Nicholas Fouquet and confiscated his possessions.

## Despite drama, Jackson's mother wins kids' custody

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The wishes Michael Jackson expressed in his will began to come into reality Monday during a lengthy court hearing, with his mother placed firmly in charge of rearing his children and the two men he designated still at the reins of his financial empire.

As a media frenzy buzzed outside, a surprise motion from Jackson's longtime dermatologist injected some drama inside the courtroom: An attorney for the doctor, Arnold Klein, tried to enter objections to the parenting of Jackson's children.

Klein has had a lengthy part in Jackson's story line. He not only served as Jackson's doctor, but one of his employees, Deborah Rowe, married Jackson in 1996 and gave birth to two of the singer's children. Most recently, Klein's medical records have been subpoenaed as part of the police investigation of Jackson's death.

Given tabloid reports that he is the biological father of Jackson's two oldest children, the attorney, Mark Vincent Kaplan, quickly told the judge and dozens of reporters covering the hearing that biology wasn't the source of the objections.

"Legally, he is not a presumed parent," Kaplan said. Rather, he said Klein knew Jackson and his children well and had concerns about their education and other day-to-day parenting issues.

Kaplan's objections created a few tense moments in the courtroom, but Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell Beckloff quickly dispatched him, saying Klein didn't have legal standing.

The appointment of Katherine Jackson as permanent guardian of her son's children didn't disperse the crowds of reporters who convened on the downtown courthouse. Satellite trucks lined the street outside the courthouse, reporters arrived more than an hour before Beckloff took the bench to try to get a courtroom seat, all while a smattering of onlookers waited outside and played to the cameras.

"Who gets the Ferris wheel," one man questioned an attorney for the men administering Jackson's estate after the hearing, which stretched from 9 a.m. until mid-afternoon. The hearing itself was decidedly more low-key.

Katherine Jackson arrived at the courthouse early and entered the courtroom from a back entrance, flanked by daughters LaToya and Rebbie and son Randy. She and Beckloff exchanged pleasantries shortly after the judge named her permanent guardian of Jackson's three children.

John Branca, one of the men who Beckloff ruled can continue to administer the singer's estate, sat across the aisle from the Jacksons. Branca served as Jackson's longtime attorney and was named along with music executive John McClain to serve as co-executors of Jackson's will, signed in 2002.

To date, court records show the men have recovered some of Jackson's personal belongings, \$5.5 million in cash, and the singer's life insurance payout, all of which will end up in a private trust account.

That money will help pay for a monthly stipend that Beckloff ap-



AP

In this May 20, 2005 file photo, Michael Jackson, background, and his mother Katherine Jackson pass through a security check point on the way to his child molestation trial at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse in Santa Maria, Calif.

proved for Katherine Jackson, 79, and for each of the singer's three children, Prince Michael, 12, Paris Michael, 11, and Prince Michael II, 7. The youngest is also known as Blanket and was born to a surrogate mother who has never been identified.

Diane Goodman, an attorney for Katherine Jackson, said the surrogate did not have any parental rights. No one else formally filed for custody of the children, although a pair of women who dogged Jackson throughout his life claiming relationships had sought the youngsters, and exorbitant amounts of money.

Beckloff did not acknowledge either of their filings on Monday.

He also did not reveal how much Katherine Jackson and the children will receive per month from the singer's estate. Similarly, he did not disclose any terms of a deal reached by concert promoter AEG Live and other groups involved with the King of Pop's planned comeback concerts in London and the singer's estate.

Beckloff ordered AEG Live to turn over records related to the settlement and the contract for the 50 shows to Katherine Jackson, but placed restrictions on who else could see the information. The judge has a week to review the settlement and decide whether to approve it.

The settlement is another piece of Jackson's finances that is being placed into a private trust set up primarily to provide for his mother and children. The four have a combined 80 percent stake in Jackson's estate, with the rest going to unspecified charities.

Howard Weitzman, an attorney for the estate's co-administrators, said the

agreements had the potential to earn the Jacksons millions of dollars.

Branca, one of the co-administrators, said the deals included Columbia Pictures, which owns rehearsal footage of Jackson's preparations for the concert, and another company that had merchandising rights.

Weitzman said co-administrators were "quite pleased" with the rulings. Branca and McClain will remain in charge of Jackson's estate until at least October, Beckloff ruled.

The judge will consider a motion by Katherine Jackson's attorneys on whether she can disqualify the men from administering the estate on grounds of their capacity or potential conflicts of interests.

Beckloff said he needed more information about the motion, including a copy of the private trust that contains a "no contest" clause stating that anyone who challenges Jackson's will should be disinherited.

The judge said he thought the law allowed Katherine Jackson to challenge Branca and McClain based on narrow arguments and scheduled an Aug. 28 hearing on the issue.

One of the quickest issues resolved was also one of the most important—Beckloff admitted Jackson's five-page will drafted in 2002 for probate, a procedure that grants it significant weight.

"It means it is the will that has been legally recognized as the will of Michael Jackson for the purposes of the administration of the estate," said probate attorney Michael G. Dave, who is not affiliated with the case.

The will was entered without fanfare, objection or any hint of drama.



# Lou Dobbs challenges his own CNN network

**NEW YORK (AP)**—He's become a publicity nightmare for CNN, embarrassed his boss and hosted a show that seemed to contradict the network's "no bias" brand. And on top of all that, his ratings are slipping.

How does Lou Dobbs keep his job?

It's not a simple answer. CNN insists it is standing behind Dobbs, despite calls for his head from critics of his reporting on "birthers"—those who believe President Barack Obama wasn't born in the United States despite convincing evidence to the contrary. The "birthers" believe Obama was born in Kenya, and thus not eligible to be president.

Dobbs' work has been so unpopular that even Ann Coulter has criticized him.

Dobbs has acknowledged that he believes Obama was born in Hawaii. But he gives airtime to disbelievers, and has said the president should try to put questions fully to rest by releasing a long version of his birth certificate. He's twice done stories on his show after the public leak of a memo from CNN U.S. President Jon Klein saying that "it seems this story is dead."

Klein said those stories were



In this 2005 file photo provided by CNN, news anchor Lou Dobbs sits on the set of his show, "Lou Dobs Tonight," in New York.

OK because they were about the controversy and weren't actually questioning the facts. But critics suggest Klein is parsing words, that even raising the issue lends it credence.

Joked The Washington Post's Lisa de Moraes: it "explains their upcoming documentary: 'The World: Flat. We Report—You Decide.'"

Dobbs hasn't made it any easier by using his radio show to fight back at critics, who he called "limp-minded, lily-livered lefty lemmings." He considered going on CNN tormentor Bill O'Reilly's Fox News show to thank him (O'Reilly says the birthers are wrong, but he defended Dobbs' right to talk about it).

"He's embarrassed himself and

he's embarrassed CNN," said Brooks Jackson, a former CNN correspondent. "And that's not a good thing for any network that wants to be seen as a reputable, nonpartisan news organization."

So who needs the headache?

Klein said Dobbs does a smart newscast that explores issues that get little in-depth attention elsewhere, such as trade with China, health care funding and the stimulus plan. He suggested Dobbs' CNN work is unfairly lumped in with his unrelated radio show, and that he's judged on the show he did a couple of years ago, when Dobbs became a political target for his campaigning against illegal immigration.

The two men sat down after last year's election to make changes, aware that the anti-immigrant Dobbs' image ran counter to the brand CNN was trying to create. CNN calls itself the network of unbiased reporting compared to conservative commentators on Fox and liberal ones at MSNBC.

Since then, Dobbs has been doing a relatively straight newscast, Klein said.

"He brings more than three decades of experience reporting and broadcasting the news,"

Klein said, "and that's very valuable to a news network."

Through a spokeswoman, Dobbs said he would not comment for this story. But he is a CNN original. Except for a two-year break a decade ago, he's been with CNN virtually from the network's beginning. Much of that time was spent anchoring a business newscast that made him hugely influential in the business community and immensely valuable to CNN. Old-timers say the desire of advertisers to be connected with Dobbs and Larry King essentially funded the network for years.

Dobbs is considered among the smartest people at CNN, and also the most personally intimidating. For whatever reason—the rise of CNBC as a competitor or a sense that opinionated hosts were the future for cable news—Dobbs morphed from a business anchor to a polarizing populist.

That version of Dobbs seemed better suited for HLN, formerly CNN Headline News, which has an opinionated prime-time lineup led by Nancy Grace. But reruns of Dobbs' show didn't do well on HLN, which is more female oriented. Klein said he and Dobbs determined Dobbs was

more valuable as a reporter than as a commentator.

The 861,000 people who tune into his 7 p.m. ET newscast on a typical night are down 20 percent from last year, according to Nielsen Media Research. He's still ahead of MSNBC's Chris Matthews in that hour.

"It's very cutthroat," said Janet Keefer, a Drake University journalism professor and former CNN producer. "As long as he isn't doing anything that's driving viewers away, they'll keep him."

Fear could be another factor keeping Dobbs and CNN together.

Dobbs has never been shy about fighting for his point of view. His feud with former CNN chief Rick Kaplan spilled out on the air in 1999 when he objected to having his "Moneyline" show pre-empted for a speech by President Clinton about the Columbine school shootings. "CNN President Rick Kaplan wants us to return to Littleton," he said. Dobbs soon left CNN and returned after Kaplan left.

With Dobbs hosting his own weekday radio show, the thought of him launching anti-CNN missiles every day has to be disconcerting.

## Gosselins are newly split as 'Jon & Kate' returns

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Reality TV mom Kate Gosselin says she feels a sense of peace after making the decision to separate from her husband, Jon.

So should fans of "Jon & Kate Plus 8," who may have fretted that this family-oriented reality show would be jeopardized by the co-stars' estrangement. For better or worse, the TLC series is as warm and fuzzy as ever, if two new episodes that aired Monday are any indication.

The episodes marked the end of a hiatus that began in June, when the Gosselins revealed to a huge audience of 10.6 million viewers their decision to split. The TLC network said then the couple needed time to "regroup," an odd word choice for a broken marriage.

But the revamped show's focus on "separately parenting" (another TLC term) is still focused on everyday family activities with the couple's eight kids—5-year-old sextuplets and 8-year-old twins.

With a kitchen renovation project under way at the Gosselins' Pennsylvania home,

Kate fled the chaos with the kids for a beach in North Carolina. Jon stayed home to oversee the construction.

Then, with Kate and the youngsters back home, Jon had taken his leave.

"This was my first official turn with the kids," Kate said. "It didn't feel very much different. It just felt more like the future."

Kate supervised a camp-out for the kids in the yard.

"This is a very, very difficult time right now," she told the camera from her interview chair, a change from the couch she and Jon had shared on the series in the past. "But my main goal is to make this transition as easy and painless ... for the kids as possible."

As co-stars of TLC's biggest hit, Jon and Kate also have been a magnet for the tabloid press since their marriage began to crumble.

But "Jon & Kate" fans (and TLC) needn't worry about the scandal mongering. The show still tells a different, squeaky-clean story—almost as if nothing had changed.

## 'Crouching Tiger' star to try romantic comedy

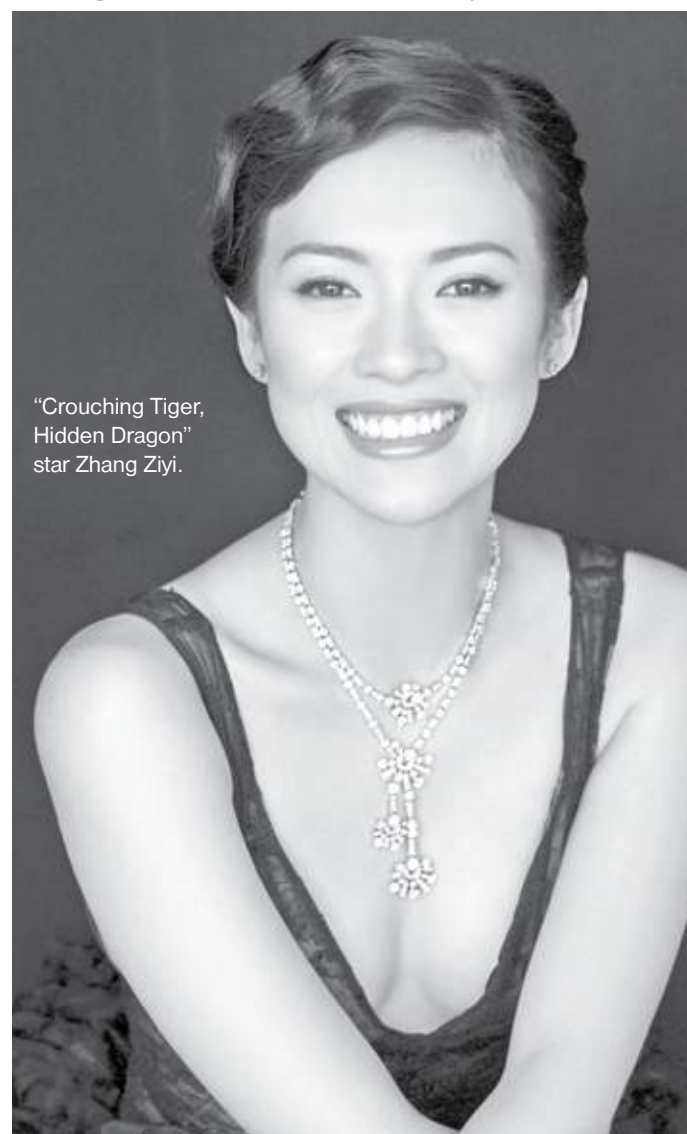
**HONG KONG (AP)**—"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" star Zhang Ziyi is trying her hand at romantic comedy after a series of dramas.

In "Sophie's Revenge," the 30-year-old actress will play a comic book artist who plots to get her fiance back after losing him to an actress. Written and directed by Chinese-American filmmaker Eva Jin, the 50 million Chinese yuan (\$7.3 million) Chinese-language film also stars Chinese actress Fan Bingbing as Sophie's rival Joanna and South Korean actor So Ji-sub as Sophie's fiance Jeff.

In response to written questions from The Associated Press, Zhang described "Sophie's Revenge" as a fun-loving movie.

"We will follow Sophie's journey in the movie, crying with her and laughing with her. I hope a story like this will resonate with everyone," Zhang said.

"Sophie's Revenge," which will be released in China on Aug. 14 and in South Korea on Aug. 20, marks a change of pace for Zhang after four dramas. She played a Japanese escort in the 2005 Hollywood film "Memoirs of a Geisha," then an empress in "The Banquet," Chinese director Feng Xiaogang's 2006 adap-



"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" star Zhang Ziyi.

tation of "Hamlet." Zhang next portrayed a friend of late Peking Opera star Mei Lanfang in Chen Kaige's 2008 biopic "Forever Enthralled." She also played a villain alongside Dennis Quaid in the 2009 American-Canadian crime thriller "Horsemen."

Zhang's new film, a South Korean-Chinese co-production, is also her debut as a producer. She told the AP that director Jin approached her with her script and she secured funding for the project.

"I really learned many more things serving as the producer. I now have a better understanding of the work flow of a movie," she said.

Zhang made her film debut in famed Zhang Yimou's heartwarming 1999 love story "The Road Home," but her career took off when Oscar-winning director Ang Lee cast her in his 2000 kung fu hit "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

With 10 years of acting and a producer credit to her name, will directing be next?

"It's so tough! You can only become a director when you're physically and mentally ready. Managing the situation on the set down to the smallest detail is really quite something," Zhang said.

## Manager denies Russell Crowe British pub ban

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**—Russell Crowe's manager denied Monday a newspaper report that the Oscar-winning Australian actor had been banned from a British pub near the set of his new film, "Robin Hood."

Britain's Sunday Express newspaper reported that a spirited argument over licensing laws apparently ended with the 45-year-old actor being banned from The Brickmakers in Windlesham, Surrey.

Crowe's manager Grant Van-

denberg said the newspaper story was untrue.

"The only truth to the whole thing is that he has been" to the pub, Vandenberg told Nine Network television in Australia.

"He has been there four or five times with his kids. There is

a playground in the back," Vandenberg added.

An unnamed duty manager at the pub told the paper: "I'm not exactly sure what he's supposed to have done, but there was apparently trouble and he's been asked not to return."

"It's not the only place he's been barred from. There are at least two others I know of" in the area, the manager added.

An unnamed local resident told the newspaper that Crowe offered money to be allowed to keep drinking at The Brick-

makers after closing time.

"Eventually he left, but not before smashing a plate," the resident said.

Crowe, who won a best actor Oscar in 2001 for his starring role in "Gladiator," has two sons, ages 3 and 5.



# Kara DioGuardi returning as 'American Idol' judge

'Let's Make a Deal' returning; Brady to host



This Feb. 7, 2009 file photo shows Wayne Brady arriving at the Clive Davis pre-Grammy party in Beverly Hills, Calif. CBS said Monday Aug. 3, 2009 that an updated version of the show will debut Oct. 5, with Brady as host.

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—**The game show "Let's Make a Deal" is coming back to daytime television.

CBS says that an updated version of the show will debut Oct. 5, with Wayne Brady as host. The network says that the premise of audience members trying to win cash and prizes by making "wacky deals" will be intact.

Monty Hall, longtime host of the original "Let's Make a Deal," is a consultant on the new show. It will replace "Guiding Light," the soap opera that's ending its more than five-decade run Sept. 21.

CBS programming chief Nina Tassler told the Television Critics Association that the change represents a "very tough transition" for the network, and that three game show pilots were scrutinized before "Let's Make a Deal" won out.

**NEW YORK (AP)—**The Fox network says Kara DioGuardi (KA'-ruh dee-oh-GWAHR'-dee) will be back for her second round as a judge on "American Idol."

The Grammy-nominated songwriter joined original panelists Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul last season.

Her arrival raised questions about the future of Abdul on the hit talent competition. Abdul is still negotiating for next year.

"American Idol" starts its ninth season in January.

This Jan. 13, 2009 file photo shows Kara DioGuardi of "American Idol" arriving at the FOX Winter All-Star Party in Los Angeles. DioGuardi will be back for her second round as a judge on "American Idol."



## Tilda Swinton takes mobile film fest on the road



In this Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009 file photo, British actress Tilda Swinton, president of the international jury for the 59th Berlinale, holds the opening news conference in Berlin, Germany.

**LONDON (AP)—**Academy Award-winner Tilda Swinton is spending part of the summer hauling a mobile movie theater across the Scottish Highlands.

Swinton and fellow film fans are transporting the movie truck through towns and villages for a traveling film festival. Most of the time they drive, but volunteers are pulling the 37-tonne (40 ton) truck for part of the journey on foot. Swinton said the foot slog—a tribute to movies and the Scottish landscape—was a "mad idea" that seemed appropriate.

Swinton told Monday's edition of The Guardian newspaper that audiences in remote communities were hungry for non-mainstream films and for an "experience of cinema" unavailable on DVD.

The festival's schedule includes international road movies, from Preston Sturges' "Sullivan's Travels" to Fridrik Thor Fridriksson's "Cold Fever."

War drama "Culloden" is being shown in the village where the 18th-century battle took place, and Akira Kurosawa's Japanese "Macbeth" adaptation "Throne of Blood" was screened in Cawdor, which has links to Shakespeare's play.

The event follows a film festival Swinton helped organize last year in her hometown of Nairn on Scotland's east coast. The six-day journey, dubbed "A Pilgrimage," is due to end Thursday in Nairn. The films will be screened there again through the weekend. Swinton, 48, won a best supporting actress Oscar in 2008 for "Michael Clayton."

## Singer grateful for life after stage collapse

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—**Country singer Billy Currington says he and his band are very grateful to be alive after the outdoor stage they were performing on in Canada collapsed over the weekend and killed one person.

Currington made his comments on the social network-

ing site Twitter.

His Mercury Nashville label said in a statement Monday that Currington was on the last song of his set at the Big Valley Jamboree festival in Camrose, Alberta, when bad weather blew the staging down on top of him and his band Saturday.

Currington suffered a minor concussion. He is expected to make a full recovery.

His bass player, Alex Stevens, had to have surgery to repair a severed artery and nerves in his left arm.

About 75 people were injured in the accident.

## New man turns bride's head two weeks after wedding

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been married for four weeks. Two weeks after my wedding I met a man who excites me and makes my heart race. My husband, "Mitch," and I dated for eight years prior to getting married. We're both 25.

I have only slept with one other man than Mitch in my entire life—someone I cheated on him with for a couple of weeks. Mitch and I had dated for two years at that point, and I was only 19. Mitch never found out.

I have spent two nights with this new man. I think about him constantly—at work and at night when Mitch is asleep. I can't get him off my mind, and he feels the same about me. But he tells me that he feels guilty, that what we're doing is wrong and I should forget about him.

My relationship with Mitch is boring. We spend a lot of time at home and don't go out much. Mitch goes to bed early, and I'm tempted to leave and go see this other man. What do I do?

MARRIED, BUT ...

**DEAR MARRIED, BUT ...:** I suspect you already know what you need to do. First, level with your husband. Then see if you can have the marriage annulled because, although it has lasted only a month, it is already over.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have begun dating a man I'll call "Tom." Things seem to be going well. Tom has met my son—they get along beautifully—and we're starting to meet each other's families.

For my son's sake, I have stayed in fairly close contact with my ex's parents. They have asked on more than one occasion when they can meet my new boyfriend, but I haven't given them a straight answer because, honestly, I don't want them to meet Tom. Since I started dating again, I have been trying hard to put my past behind me, and that includes my ex and his family. To do otherwise would be bad for me. What should I do?

MOVING ON IN DULUTH

**DEAR MOVING ON:** If you and Tom become more serious, at some point he is going to meet your son's grandparents.

If there is something that you are ashamed of, I think you should have a frank talk with Tom and lay your cards on the table before he finds out from someone else. Unless there's a court order preventing your ex from seeing his son, I doubt that you will be able to keep these two parts of your life completely separate.

**DEAR ABBY:** My divorce became final two months ago and several people have congratulated me. Abby, the last thing I ever wanted was to be another divorce statistic, but my ex-husband committed a heinous crime for which he will pay for the rest of his life. While I know I'm better off without him, what I would have preferred was for the circumstances not to have happened in the first place!

I am trying to get my life back on track, but it isn't easy. And it doesn't help when some insensitive person offers "congratulations." They don't seem to understand that the subject is painful. I have said, "Please don't say that," but what else can I say? Please advise your readers to offer condolences instead.

UNHAPPILY DIVORCED ON THE EAST COAST

**DEAR DIVORCED:** I'm passing your message along. However, when someone makes an inappropriate comment, instead of saying, "Please don't say that," try this: "Please don't bring that subject up again. All it does is make me sad."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

### ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

#### Craig Ferguson says flying makes him an honest man

**LOS ANGELES (AP)—**Craig Ferguson, who earned his pilot's license last week, says he loves aviation because it's the complete opposite of show business. The host of CBS' "Late Late Show" says that getting ahead in entertainment means claiming to be able to do anything that's asked. In aviation, Ferguson says, a person has to tell the truth or risk death. He likes to keep much of his life involved in more "rational areas" than entertainment, Ferguson told reporters Monday at a meeting of the Television Critics Association. Asked to assess guests he's

had on his show, Ferguson says his favorite was actress Betty White. His least favorite? An actor he declined to name.

#### CBS exec has tart 'D-girl' comment for Silverman

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—**Ben Silverman is gone from NBC as entertainment chief but he's not forgotten by the industry. CBS Entertainment President Nina Tassler was asked by reporters Monday about the departure of Silverman, who declared in a 2007 Esquire magazine article that he was a rare network executive and those who hold the job elsewhere are merely "D-girls." That's a dis-

missive Hollywood term suggesting development executives with minimal authority. "I'm really just a D-girl, so I wouldn't comment on that," Tassler said tartly during a Q-and-A session with the Television Critics Association. During Silverman's two-year tenure at NBC, the network remained mired in fourth place as he failed to launch new hits. Silverman has returned to his producing roots, starting a new company.

#### Tennant to bring his 'Hamlet' from stage to TV

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—**"Doctor Who" star David Tennant is bringing his portrayal

of Hamlet from the stage to the small screen. Tennant won critical acclaim for his performance in the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2008 production of "Hamlet." PBS said Sunday the TV adaptation will air in 2010 as part of its "Great Performances" series and will include Patrick Stewart in the cast. Tennant is taking on another role for the Public Broadcasting Service: This fall, he'll debut as host of "Masterpiece Contemporary." The series returns Oct. 25 with "Endgame," a drama about the final days of apartheid in South Africa, starring William Hurt and Jonny Lee Miller. PBS announced that the film will open in select U.S. theaters starting Oct. 30.

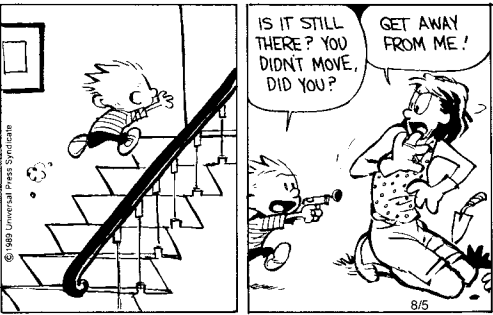


Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



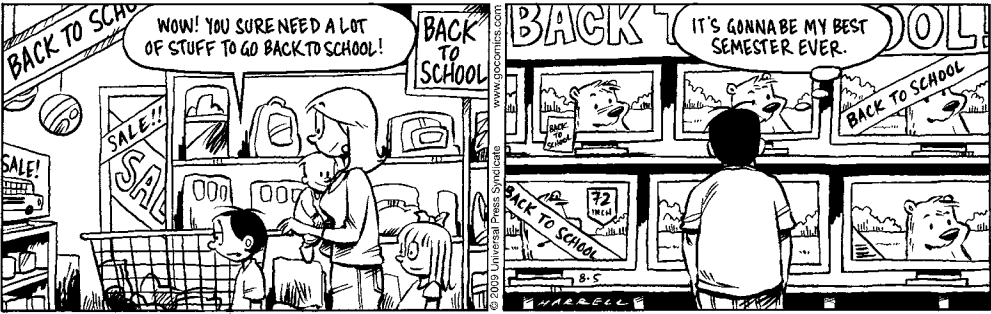
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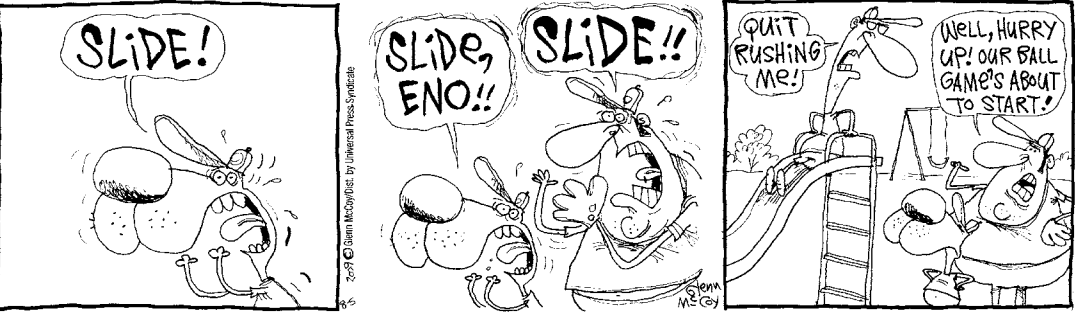
Garfield® By Jim Davis



Adam@home



The Duplex



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Request

4 Mac-

Donald's place

8 Woman of the knight

12 Skedad-dle

13 Curved molding

14 Blood-hound's clue

15 Lemieux milieu

16 Ruthless, as a competi-tion

18 Winning

20 Twitch

21 Honey bunch?

24 PAC's concern

28 Likely loser

32 Swampy terrain

33 "A pox upon thee!"

34 Above, to an editor

36 Predeter-mine

37 Watch wolfishly

39 Carnival goer's lunch, maybe

41 Bookcase component

43 "Wheel of Fortune" option

44 Commotion

46 Leger-demain

50 Basic swimming stroke

55 Praise in verse

56 Rainbow

57 Slay

58 Anti-quated

59 Kelly or Siskel

60 Calendar abbr.

61 Turn blue?

19 Honest politician

22 Learning (Abbr.)

23 Future juniors

25 Shuttle-cock

26 Vivacity, to the maestro

27 Safe-cracker

28 Fleet from far away?

29 Approach-ing

30 Take-out order?

31 Clench

35 Food

38 Pass by

40 — jiffy

42 Medicine approval org.

45 Probabil-ity

47 Suitable

48 Without acting

49 Relinquish

50 Use a shovel

51 Raw rock

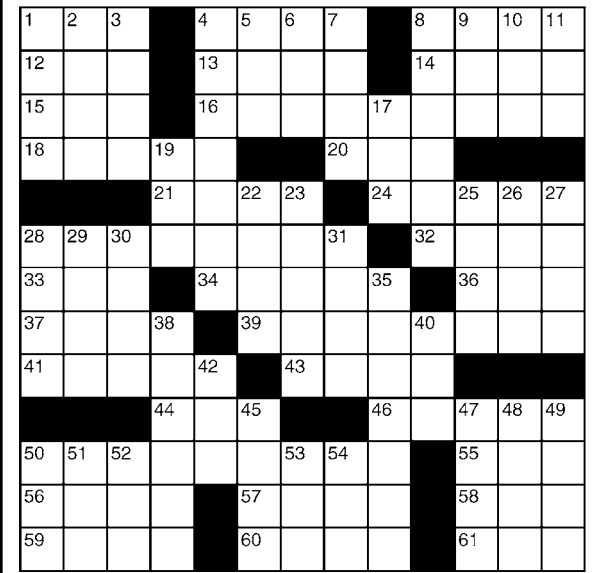
52 Card-player's call

53 Fawn's mama

54 Back talk

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kajol, 34; Adam Yauch, 45; Maureen McCormick, 53; Neil Armstrong, 79

**Happy Birthday:** Take the steps that will allow you the freedom to pursue the lifestyle you desire. Don't bend to someone else's needs when it will lead to your own unhappiness. It's time for change—let everyone know what you want and you will soon be on the road to recovery. Your numbers are 5, 13, 16, 25, 39, 44, 48

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't let someone else's interpretation of a situation lead you in the wrong direc-tion. Make your own decisions. Problems can quickly develop into something unmanageable if you are too busy taking care of your personal needs. \*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You cannot trust anyone with your money, your secrets or your plans. Keep a close tab on anyone who does things with or for you. A cause you once believed in will disappoint you. Choose your charities and your friends carefully. \*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You will learn something valuable from someone you least expect. Don't take on additional responsibilities when you already have enough to do. It's better to do less and do it to the best of your ability. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Experience will pay off even if initially it appears you may suffer a loss. You don't want to rely on someone else financially. Find out the details of a deal before you sign on the dotted line. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Fight for what you want. You can make a huge contribu-tion to an organization you believe in by following through with your sugges-tions. Keep your feelings regarding someone private—it may jeopardize your chance to get to know this person better. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Love and romance should be highlighted. Get involved in activities you enjoy and offer your services or help to a group you'd like to join. Your ability to bring people to-gether and jump-start hard-to-do jobs will be impressive. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Your clev-er, unassuming manner will get you what you want. Information will come to you from an unusual source. Protect what you know and hear and you will be at an advantage. \*\*\*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't take any unnecessary risks. There is no time to waste or to ponder over what you should or shouldn't do. Think and react in what-ever capacity will enable you to advance. \*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Look at the possibilities that exist and, if a partnership will help you get what you want, go for it. Someone from your past can help you now. Make contact and don't be shy about asking for favors. \*\*\*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Once you have established what every-one else wants, it will be easy for you to make a decision and the changes required to

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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suit your own needs. There is plenty to gain by taking control. A contract, settlement or claim you have been involved with can now be completed. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Take a chance and you won't be sorry. There is money to be made if you use what's available to you. Services that can help others or that provide a domestic need will turn out to be lucrative. \*\*\*

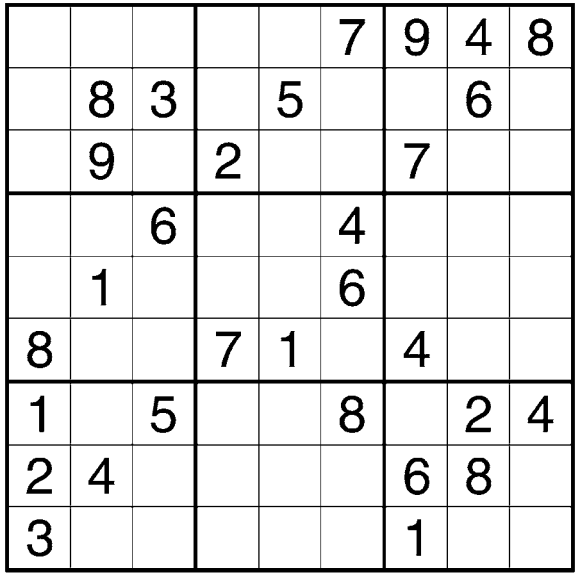
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** If you are too willing to share information, it will lose its value. Talk about what you can provide but do not give the ins and outs of what's required. Before you know it, someone will give you a proposal that's worth your while. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You can always see the big picture. You are adaptable and forceful. You are dedicated to reform and helping others.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

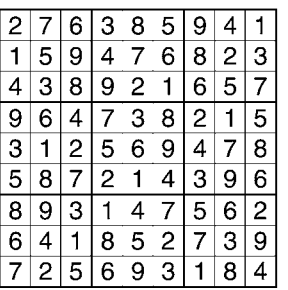
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★ 8/04

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon-tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CASHEWS Solution: 9 letters



© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 8/5

Antioxidant, Apple, Bake, Caju, Caramel, Cooking, Covered, Crop, Cuisine, Drupe, Drying, Edible, Evergreen, Flour, Fruit, Growth, Honey, Iron, Jars, Jumbo, Natural, Nuts, Oils, Packaged, Pera, Plant, Protein, Quality, Rich, Roasted, Salted, Scorched, Seeds, Serve, Shell, Snack, Spreads, Stalk, Sugared, Thiamine, Tree, Tropics, Tupi, Vitamin

Yesterday's Answer: Pitcher



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• 5-Liner	<b>\$35</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$45</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$55</b>

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## Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- *Saipan Tribune*: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

## CANCELLATION

## Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met.  
No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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# OU MULTITUDE

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# Grand jury indicts Burress on weapons charges



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Former New York Giants star Plaxico Burress was indicted by a grand jury on weapons charges for shooting himself in the thigh at a Manhattan nightclub and faces a minimum prison sentence of 3 1/2 years if convicted, prosecutors announced Monday.

The indictment charged the 31-year-old Burress with two counts of criminal possession of a weapon and one count of reckless endangerment, Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau said.

"The grand jury applied the law to the facts of this case," Morgenthau said. He said the accidental shooting at the Latin Quarter nightclub on Nov. 29 was treated "like any similar case against any other defendant."

Burress' lawyer, Benjamin Brafman, said he was disappointed but not surprised by the indictment, which came after Burress testified before the grand jury and expressed remorse.

"When you have the mayor and the district attorney both publicly demanding a maximum prison sentence, it was perhaps too much to hope for the grand jury to conduct a sympathetic review of the unique facts of this sad case," Brafman said in a statement.

Burress' former teammate Antonio Pierce, who was with Burress in the club and drove him to the hospital, was not indicted.

The panel also did not indict the nightclub security guard who carried the gun to Pierce's car or the hospital staff members who failed to notify police that Burress had been shot.

Morgenthau said hospital personnel were guilty of "a screw-up rather than a cover-up" and the security guard exhibited "bad judgment in the first degree" but did not commit a crime.

Pierce, who also testified before the grand jury last week, was practicing with the Giants in Albany when he learned of the panel's decision.

Giants President John Mara said the team was pleased that the linebacker was not indicted.

"We said last week we felt strongly that Antonio's actions did not warrant criminal charges, and obviously the grand jury, having heard all of the testimony, felt the same way," he said.

Pierce's lawyer, Michael Bachner, said, "By appearing before the grand jury for almost three hours and answering the grand jury's very direct and very considered questions, it was clear to us that they understood that Mr. Pierce acted as any citizen under extraordinary circumstances would have acted."

Burress was at the Latin Quarter nightclub Nov. 29 when a gun tucked into his waistband slipped down his leg and fired, shooting him in the right thigh.

Prosecutors said Monday that after taking Burress to the hospital, Pierce drove the gun to his own home in New Jersey—not to Burress' home, as was originally reported. They said he later arranged for it to be taken to Burress' home.

Assistant District Attorney John Wolfstaet-



Former New York Giants football player Plaxico Burress listens to his lawyer make a statement to reporters outside Manhattan Criminal Court after he testified to a Grand Jury, Wednesday, July 29, 2009 in New York.

ter said the bullet that hit Burress narrowly missed a nightclub security guard who was standing inches away.

The bullet lodged in the floor and was recovered by a bartender, Morgenthau said.

"He wanted it as a souvenir but we told him he had to turn it over," he said.

The gun was not licensed in New York or in New Jersey, where Burress lived, prosecutors said. Burress' license to carry a concealed weapon in the state of Florida had expired in May 2008.

The charges Burress was indicted on carry a mandatory minimum sentence of 3 1/2 years in prison. He pleaded not guilty to weapons charges earlier this year and is free on \$100,000 bail.

The grand jury indictment comes after plea bargain negotiations broke down, apparently

because Morgenthau was insisting that Burress serve at least two years in prison under any plea agreement.

Assistant District Attorney Mark Dwyer said it is standard policy to request a two-year sentence as part of a plea bargain on such serious charges.

Burress, who caught the winning touchdown for the Giants over the New England Patriots in the final minute of the 2008 Super Bowl, also could face disciplinary action by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell. Goodell's office announced in June that the league already had started its examination of the shooting, and NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Monday's indictment "will be considered as part of that review."

The Giants released Burress in April and he has yet to sign with another team.

## Attorney: Antonio Pierce's testimony key with grand jury

**ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)**—Antonio Pierce's attorney said Monday that he believes the New York Giants linebacker would have been indicted for his role in the Plaxico Burress shooting incident had Pierce not testified before a Manhattan grand jury investigating the matter.

Prosecutors announced on Monday that the grand jury opted not to indict Pierce on charges of carrying Burress' unlicensed firearm in the aftermath of the shooting.

Immediately after the decision was announced, the NFL said Pierce would not face a league suspension.

The grand jury indicted Burress on two counts of criminal possession of a weapon and one count of reckless endangerment. The 31-year-old star receiver was released by the Giants in April and has not been signed by another team.

Having Pierce cleared was good news for the Giants on the opening day of training camp at the University at Albany.

Pierce was with Burress at The Latin Quarter club in Manhattan on Nov. 29 when the wide receiver shot himself in the leg. Authorities say Pierce drove Burress to a hospital under an assumed name and later took the gun to Burress' home in Totowa, N.J.

Giants officials had defended Pierce, saying he acted only to help a teammate with a gunshot wound.

Bachner said Pierce's testimony was critical because he was the only person who could tell the grand jury about the extraordinary pressure and fear he faced in the hour or so after the shooting.

"Without his testimony there would have been no way to evaluate and hear what was the operation of his mind," Michael Bachner, Pierce's attorney, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

"Without his testimony there would have been no one to say how stressed out he was, what he was thinking and how he wasn't contemplating the weapon in his car, that he thought was licensed, and the rush of things that were going through his mind," Bachner added. "He was able to answer all their questions and the grand jury understood where he was coming from."

Pierce, who was between practices when the decision was announced on the first day of Giants' training camp at the University at Albany, was not going to speak with the media on Monday, team officials said.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said, based on the grand jury's decision, Pierce would not face suspension for violation of the league's personal conduct policy.

Pierce testified for two days last week before the grand jury. Bachner said the linebacker took his time explaining what he did and why.

"By appearing before the grand jury for almost three hours and answering the grand jury's very direct and very considered questions, it was clear to us that they understood that Mr. Pierce acted as any citizen under extraordinary circumstances would have acted," Bachner said. "It's our position that the grand jury's ability to see Mr. Pierce, to hear Mr. Pierce and to weigh his demeanor was key to their decision."

Bachner said that the prosecution's case centered on 25 minutes that Pierce had Burress' gun in his car before leaving the city for New Jersey. Pierce was focused on aiding a wounded teammate during that time, Bachner said.

For the Giants, the decision means their middle linebacker can focus on football.

"We certainly agree with the grand jury's decision," said Giants chief executive John Mara, who last week defended Pierce. "We said last week we felt strongly that Antonio's actions did not warrant criminal charges, and obviously the grand jury, having heard all of the testimony, felt the same way."

Giants coach Tom Coughlin was glad the matter was now behind the team.

"As I said yesterday, we are anxious to start the new season, nobody more than Antonio," Coughlin said. "Today's decision allows him and this team to move forward and focus on our preparation for the season."

Having Pierce on the field is important to the Giants. He calls the defensive plays.

"Antonio is a leader on this team, but he is still human, and this has been an emotionally draining experience for him," general manager Jerry Reese said. "We know he was happy to get to training camp yesterday, and with this behind him, he can focus all his energy and efforts on football. He took this matter very seriously."

## Organizer: Va. Michael Vick 'celebration' postponed

**NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP)**—Michael Vick's hometown celebration was postponed Monday because of a conflict, an organizer said.

The "Michael Vick Community Celebration" scheduled for Saturday will be held later because the job-hunting former NFL quarterback has an event that day in Atlanta with the Humane Society of the United States, organizer Andrew Shannon said. Vick informed him of the conflict, he said.

A spokesman for the Humane Society did not immediately return a telephone message left by The Associated Press. Shannon did not know the nature of the Atlanta event or whether it was open to the public.

Vick has been conditionally reinstated in the NFL after completing a 23-month federal sentence for running a dogfighting ring. The Newport News celebration was to be his first announced public event since his freedom.

Shannon, president of the Peninsula chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said organizers were committed to celebrating Vick's return to the community and would not be swayed by negative public opinion.

After the event was publicized late Friday, Shannon said he received calls early Saturday from supporters and "from people who love

animals" who were critical of the celebration.

"We want to say as an organization we're not intimidated and we won't waver in our support of Michael Vick," Shannon said. "We believe in forgiveness and we believe in redemption so we believe that Mr. Vick should be able to move forward with his life and make a livelihood."

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has said Vick can sign with a team and begin playing by week six of the NFL season.

Twenty-six NFL teams have said they're not interested in signing the 29-year-old, with the remaining six declining to comment or not ruling him out.



# Braun, Parra power Brewers past Dodgers



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Ryan Braun had a three-run homer among his four hits, and Milwaukee closer Trevor Hoffman got Manny Ramirez on a bases-loaded fly to right to finish the Brewers' 6-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the National League on Monday.

Manny Parra pitched eight outstanding innings, but Milwaukee nearly blew a four-run lead after he gave up two hits to open the ninth. James Loney hit Hoffman's first pitch for a two-run double, and Orlando Hudson drove him home to cut Milwaukee's lead to a run.

After the Dodgers loaded the bases on a swinging bunt and a hit batsman, Ramirez could only manage the fly ball, keeping him without an RBI in 10 straight games.

Hoffman earned his 24th save despite giving up three hits and a run for the Brewers.

## Padres 4, Braves 2

At San Diego, Mat Latos pitched seven strong innings, and fellow rookie Will Venable drove in the go-ahead run and made a run-saving catch as San Diego downed Atlanta.

Latos settled down after allowing a run in each of the first two innings. He retired 15 of 16 batters in one stretch and got a huge lift when Venable saved at least one run in the seventh with a diving catch in right field to end the inning.

Latos (3-1) gave up Brian McCann's sacrifice fly in the first and a solo homer by Adam LaRoche in the second. He allowed two runs and six hits in his third solid start since coming up from Double-A on July 18.

Heath Bell pitched a perfect ninth for his 27th save and San Diego won for the sixth time in seven games.

Venable had three hits and put San Diego ahead 3-2 in the third with a single that scored David Eckstein, who led off with a triple.

Kenshin Kawakami (5-9) allowed three runs and eight hits in six innings as he lost for the third time in four starts.

## Cubs 4, Reds 2

At Cincinnati, rookie right-hand pitcher Randy Wells took a shutout into the eighth inning and Mike Fontenot hit a three-run homer off slumping Aaron Harang as Chicago downed Cincinnati.

The Cubs have gone 20-10 since July 1, and are 13-5 since the All-Star break, the best mark in the majors.

Wells (8-4) allowed six hits, including Alex Gonzalez's solo homer, over 7 1-3 innings while getting his fourth straight victory.

Fontenot homered in the second inning off Harang (5-13), who leads the majors in losses. Harang hasn't won since May 25, going 0-9 in his last 13 starts.

Carlos Marmol gave up a run-scoring double by Gonzalez in the ninth inning before retiring Willy Taveras on a grounder for his fourth save.

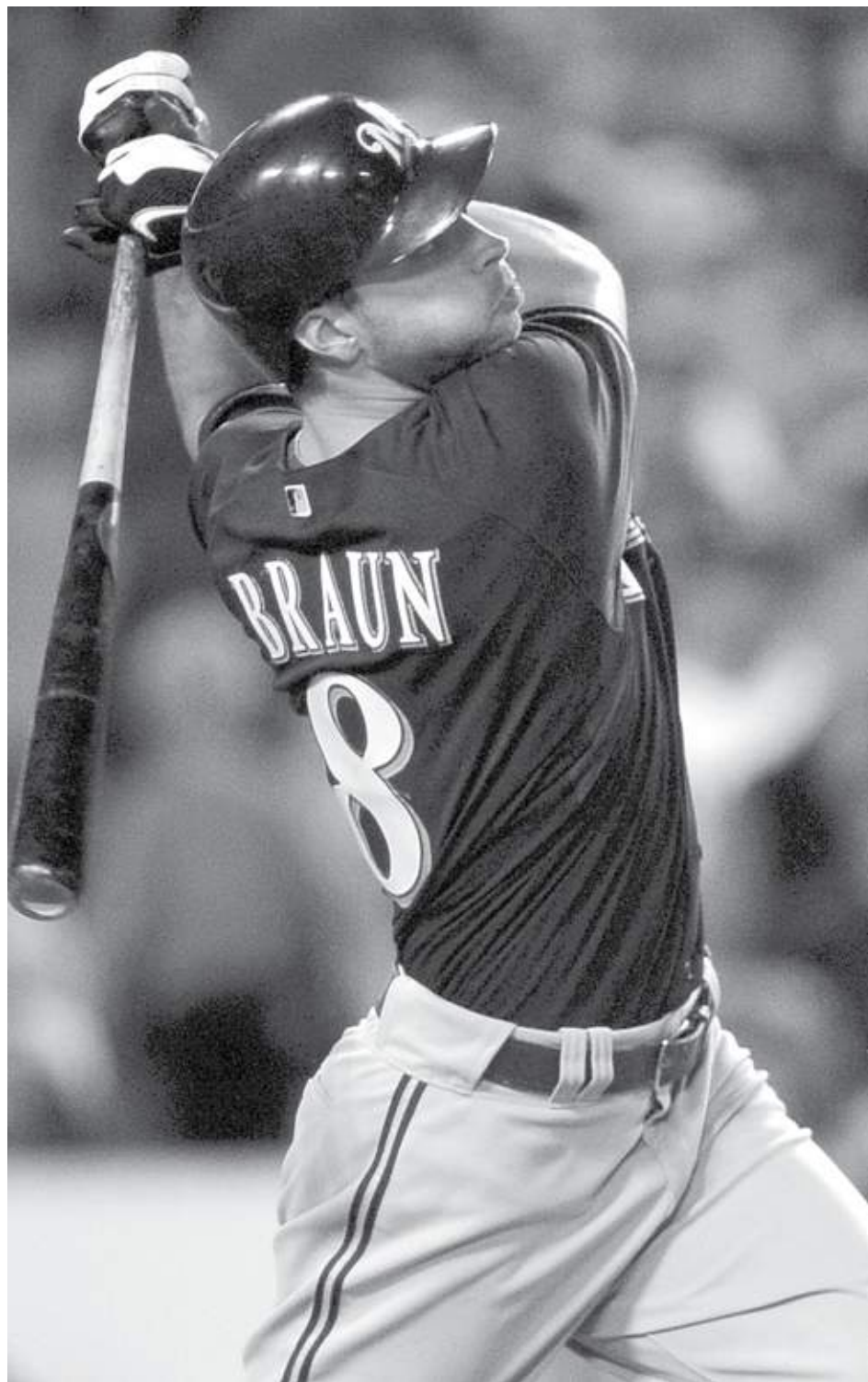
## Astros 4, Giants 3

At Houston, Geoff Blum and Kaz Matsui homered off Matt Cain as Houston snapped the San Francisco pitcher's six-start unbeaten streak.

Blum led off the fifth with a homer, the first earned run allowed by Cain in 14 innings. That cut the Giants' lead to 2-1 and Matsui put Houston on top in the sixth with a two-run shot off the right-field foul pole.

Cain (12-3) also gave up Carlos Lee's RBI single in the eighth.

Mike Hampton (7-8) gave up eight hits, only one



Milwaukee Brewers' Ryan Braun hits a three-run home run during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Monday, Aug. 3, 2009, in Los Angeles.

after the Giants took a 2-0 lead in the third. He struck out six and won for just the third time in eight starts.

Jose Valverde gave up an RBI double to Pablo Sandoval with two outs in the ninth, but earned his 13th save.

Blum's sixth homer of the season was only the second allowed by Cain in seven starts.

## Diamondbacks 6, Mets 5

At New York, Mark Reynolds hit two home runs to powering Arizona past New York.

Reynolds and Miguel Montero capped Arizona's three-run first with only the second set of back-to-back homers at the new Citi Field. Reynolds added a two-run shot off Nelson Figueroa (1-1) in the second.

Gerardo Parra had three hits and drove in a run for the Diamondbacks, who nearly blew a six-run lead. Dan Haren (11-6) allowed five runs and eight hits over seven innings, and is 7-2 with a 2.44 ERA in his last 10 starts.

Daniel Murphy homered and Luis Castillo drove in two runs for New York, which has lost four of five after winning five consecutive games.

Reynolds has seven home runs in his last seven games and is batting .387 (24 for 62) with eight homers since the All-Star break.

## Nationals 8, Pirates 4

At Pittsburgh, Adam Dunn and Ryan Zimmerman homered as Washington rallied from a three-run deficit to beat Pittsburgh.

Cristian Guzman had two hits and two RBIs and Tyler Clippard (2-1) earned the win with three hitless innings of relief for Washington, which won

the last two games to split the four-game series between the last-place teams.

Andrew McCutchen homered for the fourth time in three games and Ryan Doumit went 3 for 5 for the Pirates, who have lost seven of nine.

Mike MacDougal earned his eighth save by getting Delwyn Young, the only batter he faced, to ground out with two runners on.

Charlie Morton (2-4) allowed all four of his runs and four of his six hits in the sixth.

## Athletics 3, Rangers 2

At Oakland, California, pinch-hitter Rajai Davis tripled down the right field line to drive in two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning and lift the Oakland Athletics to victory over the Texas Rangers.

C.J. Wilson (4-5) blew his third save in 16 chances after allowing singles to Jack Cust, Tommy Everidge and Mark Ellis, before Davis' triple.

Mike Wuertz (6-1) pitched 1 1-3 innings to earn the win.

Marlon Byrd drove in a run and Hank Blalock scored the game's first run on a double play for the Rangers.

A's starter Brett Anderson gave up six hits over 7 2-3 innings with eight strikeouts and three walks.

Dustin Nippert, who started in place of the injured Kevin Millwood, gave up one hit in five innings. He walked two and struck out five.

Neftali Feliz, one of the Rangers' top pitching prospects, made an impressive major league debut by striking out the side in the top of the sixth in relief of Nippert. He retired all six hitters he faced.

## Tigers 6, Orioles 5

At Detroit, Cleto Thomas homered with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to give Detroit a victory over Baltimore.

Baltimore led 5-0 with one out in the top of the first. The game was tied at 5 going into the ninth, and Danys Baez (4-5) retired the first two batters, but Thomas hit a 1-2 pitch into the shrubs above the fence in center.

Fernando Rodney (2-2) picked up the win with a scoreless inning of relief.

Brian Roberts started the game with a homer, and the next three batters singled to load the bases. After a run-scoring forceout, Ty Wigginton had a one-run double and Luke Scott added a two-run double.

Miguel Cabrera, who had a two-run double in the bottom of the first, tied the game in the fifth with his 20th homer.

## Rays 10, Royals 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Carl Crawford had three hits and three RBIs and to lead Tampa Bay past Kansas City.

Crawford, who stole his league-leading 49th base, went 3 for 3 against Kansas City starter Zack Greinke (10-7) after having just one hit in 16 previous at-bats against him.

Willy Aybar hit solo homers from both sides of the plate for the Rays, who won nine of 10 games in the season series with Kansas City. Aybar homered left-handed off Greinke in the fifth and went deep from the right side against Ron Mahay two innings later.

Greinke allowed six runs and 10 hits over five innings, and is 0-4 in six starts since his last win on June 28.

## NBA BRIEFS

### Cavs, Rockets, Wolves fined for leaking schedules

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The NBA has fined three teams an undisclosed amount for leaking details of their schedules before the league released them. The Cleveland Cavaliers, Houston Rockets and Minnesota Timberwolves were penalized, an official with knowledge of the decisions told The Associated Press on Monday. The official requested anonymity because the fines weren't publicly announced. The NBA will release its 2009-10 schedule on Tuesday afternoon. The league forbids teams to release any details before then.

### Timberwolves sign center Hollins to offer sheet

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—The Minnesota Timberwolves have signed restricted free-agent center Ryan Hollins to an offer sheet, giving the Dallas Mavericks seven days to match the offer. Terms were not released. The 7-foot Hollins was selected from UCLA in the 2006 draft by Charlotte. He played two-plus seasons with the Bobcats before being traded to Dallas in January. Hollins has career averages of 2.7 points and 1.8 rebounds per game. Timberwolves president of basketball operations David Kahn calls Hollins an athletic center who should fit in well on the frontcourt with Kevin Love and Al Jefferson.

### Lakers waive Chinese guard Sun Yue

**EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)**—The Los Angeles Lakers have waived guard Sun Yue, the Chinese national team star who won an NBA championship ring during one quiet season with the club. The move was announced Friday. Sun played 10 games with the Lakers, scoring six points in 28 minutes. He also played two stints in the D-League, but struggled to find a regular role in Los Angeles. The Lakers, who drafted Sun in 2007, held a \$736,000 option on Sun for next season. He was waived the same day Lamar Odom agreed to a multiyear deal to return to the club. "With the talent level and depth of our roster, the situation simply doesn't provide an opportunity for Sun Yue to get the chance to play that he deserves," general manager Mitch Kupchak said.

### Spurs confirm mild sprain in Parker's ankle

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)**—Tony Parker will miss the next game for the French national team after the Spurs confirmed a mild right ankle sprain in their star point guard. The Spurs brought Parker back to San Antonio for tests after their leading scorer injured his ankle and thigh in a collision with an Austrian player last week. Parker is not expected to play when France plays Italy on Wednesday in a European championship qualifier. The Spurs said Parker will rejoin the French team this week, and that his return will depend on how his ankle responds to treatment. Parker has said earlier tests showed no signs of ligament tears or serious complications.



# NMASA agenda in meeting: 2010 Micronesian Games



The CNMI's participation on the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau will be the main topic of tomorrow's monthly meeting of the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association.

According to the Palau National Olympic Committee website, next year's Micro Games will include 15 sports, namely athletics, baseball, basketball, outrigger canoe, table tennis, tennis triathlon, fast-pitch softball, swimming, wrestling, weightlifting, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, Micronesian All-Around, and spearfishing.

Aside from tackling the Commonwealth's

participation in next year's Micro Games, NMASA president Michael A. White also reminded members that they will vote for the July Athlete of the Month winners.



White

Member associations will vote for the best athletes for the previous month in four categories (male, female, male student, and female student).

White said associations that will be nominating their athletes should submit written nominations in multiple copies to be distributed to members during the meeting.

Tomorrow's meeting will start promptly at 7pm at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. *(Mark Rabago)*

## TYRONE

From Page 28

shall Islands, Nauru, and Kiribati.

After Day 1, the CNMI has eight medals, tying Guam. The Commonwealth earned three gold medals, three silver, and two bronze.

Yesterday, besides Omar, seven of the 12 other CNMI athletes debuted in the tournament and gave the Commonwealth a good start.

In the women's 100m finals race, Yvonne Bennett submitted 13.39 seconds, tying Guam's Naome Burk and Nauru's Lovelite Detenamo for the fastest time in Micronesia. An e-mail to Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes asking how the tie was resolved has yet to be answered at press time.

Bennett had a preliminary time of 13.24 seconds, missing the finals [for combined three regions] by only .02 of a second. Tonga's Patiola Pahulu,

who was the last qualifier in the finals, logged 13.22 seconds.

Yvonne's twin sister, Yvette, also had a faster preliminary race time of 13.52 seconds. Yvette's time in the finals was 13.54 seconds.

Also competing in the 100m race was Jesus Iguel, who timed in at 12.14 seconds.

In the women's 400m hurdles, Jacque Wonenberg outraced Guam's Andria Cruz, as the former timed in at 1:13.37 against the latter's 1:27.58. Wonenberg was third overall behind Papua New Guinea's Sharon Kwarula (1:04.38) and Tonga's Mele To'a (1:01.53).

Wonenberg also competed in the women's shot put and placed fourth in Micronesia with her 7.59m heave. Nauru's Jerusha Mau was first in the region with her 8.55m, while Guam's Genie Gerardo (7.75m) was second. Nina Grundler, also of Nauru, completed the Top 3.

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel was the

first athlete in Micronesia to complete the men's 400m hurdles after timing in at 1:05.27. Teammate Clayton Kenty came in next at 1:07.13, finishing ahead of Guam's Michael Herreros (1:09.35).

Kabiriel was third overall behind PNG's Wala Gime (53.12 seconds) and New Zealand's Michael Cochrane (56.16 seconds) and was ahead of two Tongan athletes.

Kabiriel had his second event of the day in the 5,000m race and was runner-up to Guam's Toby Castro. Kabiriel completed the long distance race in 19:09.81 against Castro's 17:11.03. Matt Mancao, also of the CNMI, made it to the Top 3 after submitting 20:15.39.

Trevor Ogomoro also saved third place in the men's high jump, recording 1.60m on his third try. Kiribati had a 1-2 finish in the high jump with David Peter Birati logging 1.81m and teammate George David tallying 1.75m.

## HEO

From Page 28

his coach before and told me to hit it to his forehand. That really confused me. In the first set, I played really bad because I wasn't doing anything good. I was just committing to many errors," the 17-year-old netter said.

Heo lost the opening set, 2-6, but later found out the "coach" was playing dirty tricks on him. The Marianas High School student then regained his composure and played with vengeance in mind.

"I realized that guy was just telling me that so that I will lose. I cleared my mind and set it to fight back. I started out the first game strong and had big serves. In tennis, the first game is very

important in a set. It could lead to the outcome of the match," Heo said.

Heo won the second set, 7-6, foiling Belizon's repeated comeback bids.

"In the second set, I was up, 5-3. I got nervous at my serve and he broke me back and it was, 5-4. He held serve and it was 5-5, and he broke me again to take the lead, 6-5," said Heo, who despite losing the lead kept his focus and worked his way back into the game.

"One thing that I really improved on this summer is my mental toughness. I really fight hard in my matches no matter what the score is. He was up, 40-0, 6-5. He had three match points, but I really didn't think about the match points and kept going. I kept every ball in with lots of spin and played

aggressive. I went on to save three match points," the CNMI netter added.

Then a bad break caught up with Belizon, as if he was paying for the dirty tactics his "coach" played against Heo.

"At 40-30 with him leading, he thought he hit an ace and he was mad when his friends agreed that the ball was out. I kept playing aggressive and I took the game and went to a tie-break and finally won the set," Heo said.

The deciding third set was an easier one for Heo, who this time tricked Belizon with his big service and accurate net game en route to a 6-2 triumph.

"I served better and smarter, and mixed up a lot of my serves. I kicked him out wide with my serve and went to the net a couple of times. My net points

won percentage was around 80 percent I'd say. I took an early lead, 5-1," Heo said.

Belizon held his serve to move within three, 2-5, and then he and Heo had a rally before a shot near the net sealed the doom for the New Caledonia player.

"We went to several deuce. We had a long rally and I told myself I really needed to go to the net to keep the pressure on. After a 25-ball rally, I hit a semi hard shot and came to the net. He lost composure and hit the ball wide," Heo said.

In the semifinals last Saturday, Heo was pitted against Ducasse Olivier, the No. 3 seed in the tournament.

Olivier won the first set, 6-2. Ahead at 4-2, Heo injured his right foot, but decided to continue the game and prevailed, 6-4.

"I reached for a wide forehand and I sprained my ankle pretty bad. It's the same ankle I sprained last year. I took an injury time out and started icing it. I took ibuprofens and wore a brace and at that time, there wasn't much swelling so I kept going," Heo said.

In the third set, Olivier surprisingly quit, saying he does not have any more juice to play a much fitter Heo.

"His physical condition was not that strong, as he is more into coaching than playing. I really don't like winning by defaults or retirement. However, it's okay, as I don't think I could have played either. After an hour or two, my ankle really swelled up and I couldn't walk properly," the CNMI player said.

Heo was scheduled to play a certain Nikolas in the finals on

the same day and was forced to forfeit the title game.

"I knew that I couldn't play the finals and it was only two hours away. I went to the court at 4pm to play and tried warming up, but couldn't. I had no power on my ankle," said Heo, who also moved into the finals in a different tournament in Noumea, two weeks ago, before losing to Guim Monot.

## SAIPAL

From Page 28

sive defense, no Falcons runner advanced to second base in the first three innings.

The Falcons made it to the scoreboard at the bottom of the fourth on Steve Igisair's two-run triple. However, it was not enough to lead a Falcons comeback, as SaiPal answered with four runs in the last two innings for an easy win via a 10-run mercy rule.

J.D. Dikito and Martin both went 4-for-4 at the plate

for SaiPal and scored two and three runs, respectively. Bobai and Lawrence Dikito were 3-for-4 and had two runs apiece.

SaiPal advanced to the quarterfinals and was to face first leg winner Advance last night.

### Natibu 13, Pac Chain 6

In the first game, Natibu downed Pac Chain, 13-6.

Ned Norita was 3-for-4 at bat, scored three runs, and had two RBIs. J.R. Suel was also 3-for-4 at the plate, tallied two runs, and one RBI. Suel could

have hit 4-for-4, but his last trip at the plate was called out, after he hit a homer. Tournament format does not allow a home run and one is automatically counted as an out.

A six-run top of the first gave Natibu control of the game, before Pac Chain scored five runs in the second inning to threaten a comeback.

However, that was the best that Pac Chain could do, as it only scored one run in the last five innings, while Natibu added five.

Natibu was to duel Sokau in the next round last night.

Sokau drew a bye in the first round of the double-elimination tournament.

### Advance 15, Kulan Zamu 6

In the last game of the night, Advance X-Terminators shut out Kulan Zamu in three straight innings to nail a 15-6 win.

It was Advance's third straight win over Kulan Zamu in the same tournament. In the first leg, Advance defeated Kulan Zamu in the elimination round, 8-4, and then in the finals, 1-0.

Their third meeting was a

close one in the first three innings before the X-Terminators pulled away in the fourth inning.

Both teams scored two runs in the first inning, but Kulan Zamu went cold in the next three innings. Advance struggled, making only one run in the second inning, but recovered with a four-run top of fourth for a 7-2 lead. The X-Terminators never looked back from thereon, dropping Kulan Zamu to the loser's bracket.

Kulan Zamu was to meet the Falcons in the third game last night.

Last but not the least, Alvarez believes that Saipan's two heavyweights—Fital and San Nicolas—should be given a shot against reigning PXC heavyweight champion Roque Martinez.

"I already know that Fasi Jesse will be on the PXC card in September. This according to Eli Monge who confirmed his participation last week. I believe Kelvin deserves a title shot with the current heavyweight champ Roque Martinez; and after his victory over Eric "The Terror" Tedtaotao, Myron San Nicolas a.k.a. "The Natural" deserves a chance at the belt as well," he said.

## CUKI

From Page 28

political boundaries....And now since that rivalry has crossed over into the MMA scene, this was the perfect setting to prove whose conviction holds stronger. With a 5-5 split, you can tell that both island nations fought valiantly," he said.

Alvarez said he was content that the latest edition of Trench Warz ended in a deadlock, as the tie would spur more debate and ultimately will lead to more Saipan vs. Guam events in the coming years.

"For years it has been pondered: who holds the title as toughest island nation? On that night, the question was definitively answered—both Guam and the CNMI have some of the best mixed martial artists this side of the Pacific," he said.

Alvarez also gave kudos to Saipan fighters for holding their ground against their more technically astute cousins from the south.

"I am proud of the way Saipan fighters competed against Guam. They were glorious in victory and classy in defeat (and the same can be said to the Guam fighters). More of these

kinds of battles will take place in the octagon for many years to come. So this is just the beginning of many Saipan vs. Guam events/bouts."

He specifically mentioned the performances churned out by Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse, Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas, and Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fital in Trench Warz X as sure to get them invited to Guam's next Pacific Xtreme Championship gig.

"Among the Saipan fighters who were victorious that night, Jesse, San Nicolas, and, of course, Fital have the potential to make it big. All of them are still young and have the burning desire to

compete with whoever you put in front of them," he said.

Alvarez, however, didn't reserve the accolades only to the triumphant as he also gave Slade "The Rage" Adelbai some props for fighting Toby "Big Tobz" Mesa, who was 35 lbs. heavier than him.

"Slade, who lost against Mesa, took the fight 35 lbs. underweight. It was a battle to the very end (4 minutes 40 seconds or something like that) until he got caught with a rouge punch that sent him down. All the combatants who fought that night—win or lose—are all great athletes," he said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	63	42	.600	—
Boston	62	42	.596	1/2
Tampa Bay	58	48	.547	5 1/2
Toronto	51	54	.486	12
Baltimore	44	61	.419	19
Central Division				
Detroit	55	49	.529	—
Chicago	54	52	.509	2
Minnesota	52	53	.495	3 1/2
Cleveland	44	61	.419	11 1/2
Kansas City	41	64	.390	14 1/2
West Division				
Los Angeles	63	40	.612	—
Texas	59	45	.567	4 1/2
Seattle	54	51	.514	10
Oakland	45	60	.429	19
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Philadelphia	59	44	.573	—
Florida	55	50	.524	5
Atlanta	53	53	.500	7 1/2
New York	50	55	.476	10
Washington	34	72	.321	26 1/2
Central Division				
Chicago	56	48	.538	—
St. Louis	58	50	.537	—
Houston	53	53	.500	4
Milwaukee	53	53	.500	4
Cincinnati	45	60	.429	11 1/2
Pittsburgh	45	60	.429	11 1/2
West Division				
Los Angeles	65	41	.613	—
Colorado	58	47	.552	6 1/2
San Francisco	58	48	.547	7
Arizona	47	59	.443	18
San Diego	44	63	.411	21 1/2
Yesterday's Games				
Washington 8, Pittsburgh 4				
Arizona 6, N.Y. Mets 5				
Chicago Cubs 4, Cincinnati 2				
Houston 4, San Francisco 3				
San Diego 4, Atlanta 2				
Milwaukee 6, L.A. Dodgers 5				
Tampa Bay 10, Kansas City 4				
Detroit 6, Baltimore 5				
Oakland 3, Texas 2				
By The Associated Press				



# 14th Tournament of Champions Awards Banquet

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Korean Yun Jeong Kim receives her first place prize in the Ladies Low Gross Flight of the 14th Annual Tournament of Champions from TOC chairman Ben Babauta during the awards banquet at Laolao Bay Golf Resort's Crystal View Restaurant last Sunday.



Saipan's Noriko Jim finishes third in the Ladies Low Gross Flight.



Ladies Low Gross runner-up Rose Tarpley shows her prize.



Championship Flight runner-up Bae Yong Man lost to Guam's Louie Sunga in the sudden-death playoff on hole No. 17.



Joji Taguchi shot a 1-over par 73 to finish third in the Championship Flight.



Last year's Seniors Flight champion Ed Manibusan settles for fourth place.



Tony Satur, left, won in the tiebreak for third place in the Seniors Flight.



Rep. Diego Benavente ruled the B Flight with a gross score of 8-over par 80.



Manny Mangarero, who topped the Seniors Flight, is one of the only two Saipan bets to win first place in the shortened tournament.



Guam's Philip Mark Santos finished third in the A Flight after shooting a 3-over par 77.





## NYC grand jury indicts Burress on weapons charges

Former New York Giants star Plaxico Burress was indicted by a grand jury on weapons charges for shooting himself in the thigh at a Manhattan nightclub.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## NMASA agenda in meeting: 2010 Micro Games

The CNMI's participation on the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau will be the main topic of tomorrow's monthly meeting of the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Tyrone gets CNMI off and running

## Omar is fastest Micronesian in 100m

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI sprinter Tyrone Omar was the fastest Micronesian during the finals of the 100m race in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009.



Omar clocked in at 11.51 seconds to defeat Kiribati's Tanroo Taniera (11.69 seconds) Kiakia Tekambwa (11.90 seconds), Nauru's J.J. Capelle (11.78 seconds), Anderson's Depaune (12.10 seconds), and Godfrey Quadina (12.25 seconds), FSM's Yondan Namelo (12.04), and Palau's Leon Mengloi (11.91 seconds).

Omar's time in the finals was faster than his preliminary race time of 11.65 seconds, but it was behind his personal best and CNMI National record of 10.99 seconds posted in the XIII Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa in 2007.

Omar was among the more than 300 athletes from 22 nations participating in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009, which kicked off yesterday at the Griffith University, in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

The Regionals is a consolidation of the Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia Championships. Athletes from the three regions may compete together, but results will be separated for rankings purposes.

Guam and Kiribati are the pre-favorites to top the 2009 Micronesian Athletics Championship, but the CNMI Team could give the two islands a run for their money, following results of Day 1 of the tournament. The CNMI is grouped with Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Mar-

See TYRONE on Page 26



Tyrone Omar, seen here training at the Oleai Sports Complex, submitted the fastest time in Micronesia during the finals of the 100m race in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009 yesterday at the Griffith University, in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

# Heo survives trap in New Caledonia



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



CNMI junior tennis player Ji Hoon Heo moved out of a "trap" in time to outsmart his foe in the quarters and later survived an ankle injury in the semis to advance to the finals of the 2009 Olympique Open at the Olympique Club Tennis Court in Noumea.

Heo's quarterfinals opponent was Tony Belizon, who was seeded second in the tournament. Up against a tough foe, Heo readied strategies against Belizon, namely keeping the ball to his foe's backhand, changing rhythm all the time, slowing the pace of the game a bit, having big percentage first serve, and running for every ball.

"Those were my plans against him. Then before I played him, there was this guy who came to me saying he was

See HEO on Page 26

## Cuki vows more Saipan-Guam bouts in future



MARK RABAGO

Eric "The Terror" Tedtaotao—blood oozing from his right eye and all—mounts Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas during their semi-main event bout in last Friday's Trench Warz X: Collision at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

### Last of a three-part series

With the success of last Friday's Trench Warz X: Collision, Trench Tech Purebred Gym president and promoter extraordinaire Cuki Alvarez is already looking forward to holding another inter-island

bash-fest in the not too distant future.

"I am happy with the overall results. I knew that coming into this event, both sides came with the die-hard intention to win and take the other down in the name of island honor. As I had mentioned before, the rift between Saipan and Guam has always been because of rivalry in both sports and

See CUKI on Page 26

## SaiPal downs Falcons in second KOD qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



SaiPal used an eight-run top of the second as cushion en route to a 16-6 triumph over the Falcons at the start of the second leg of the 2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament last Monday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Pitcher Leo Bobai and third baseman Gloyd Martin sparked SaiPal's run in the second inning, blasting a two-run double and one-run double, respectively. The rest of SaiPal's runs were made off Falcons fielding errors.

On defense, Bobai allowed no hits and gave up no runs in the first three innings to lift SaiPal to a 12-0 lead. SaiPal's men on the bases were quick for grounders, while the outfielders had their gloves ready for pop flies. With SaiPal's impres-

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SaiPal's Leo Bobai prepares to throw a pitch against the Falcons' B.J. Leon Guerrero during the bottom of the fourth inning of their game at the start of the second leg of the 2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament last Monday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

